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COUNTRY LIFE

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
(continued.)

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AND COUNTRY PURSUITS.

VOL. LXXXII. No. 2135.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18th, 1937.

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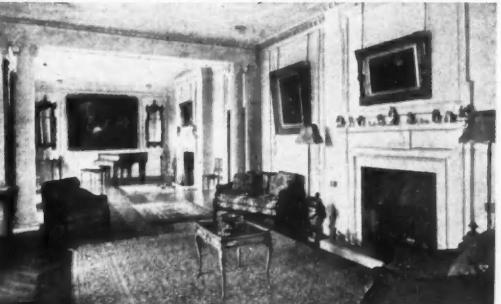


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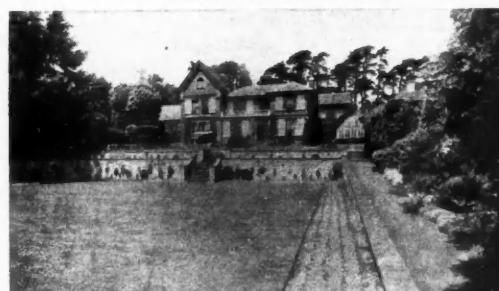
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All main services.

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Hot and cold water basins in several bedrooms.

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(Knight, Frank & Rutley's advertisements continued on page iii.)



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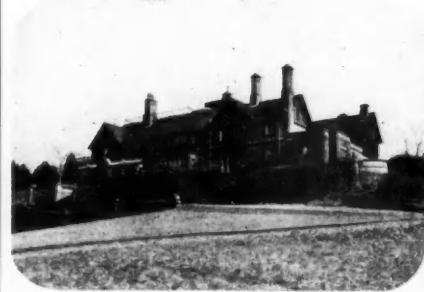
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MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

Telegraphic Address:
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NORFOLK

Just available for sale.

A CHARMING GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

well placed in matured surroundings, facing South, and approached by a carriage drive.

Hall, three reception rooms, nine bedrooms, three very well-fitted bathrooms.

Usual offices.

In first-rate order, and completely up-to-date with fitted lavatory basins in bedrooms, main electricity, central heating, etc.

Stabling, etc. Well-timbered matured Gardens.

Paddock.

COTTAGE

7 ACRES



Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (M. 1992.)

A FINE GEORGIAN HOUSE IN SUFFOLK

facing South, in stately old Grounds, approached by a long drive.



Four reception (with parquet floors), nine bedrooms, three bathrooms.

Main Electricity.

Central Heating.

Well-timbered Parklands.

Three Cottages.

37 Acres.

Inspected by Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (16,164.)

Exceptionally favourable terms for an early sale.

SUSSEX

Convenient for stations with good Electric Train Service to Town. Enjoying uninterrupted views to South Downs.

AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE
OF GEORGIAN CHARACTERIn good repair, and up-to-date with
Electricity, Main Water, Central Heating,
etc.

Long carriage drive with lodge.

Lounge hall, three reception rooms, billiard room,
twelve bed and dressing rooms. Three bathrooms.

FARMERY. FOUR COTTAGES.

Parklike Pasture, 36 Acres



For Sale by Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (16,792.)

HAMPSHIRE

In a very favoured district within easy reach of
Winchester and Salisbury.

To be Sold Privately

An Old XVIIth Century Residence

carefully modernised with electric light, etc., and
pleasantly placed in Old World Gardens, approached by
a long carriage drive, flanked by rhododendrons. It
contains

Three reception rooms, five bedrooms, bathroom.

Garage and other buildings.

Orchard, Wood and Meadowland.

COTTAGE.

14 ACRES.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (M. 1993.)

Just in the market.

BERKSHIRE

On the borders of Hampshire, in a much sought-after
neighbourhood, within easy daily reach of Town.

XVIIth Century Residence

occupying a fine situation, on sandy soil, surrounded
by extensive woodlands and grassland, affording pro-
tection, and approached by a long drive, flanked by
banks of rhododendrons.Four good reception, fourteen bed and
dressing rooms, two bathrooms, etc.;
electric light, central heating.

Stabling. Garages. Farmery.

Beautifully Matured Gardens

shaded by fine cedar and other trees. The remainder is
Parklike Pasture and Woodlands

in all about

140 ACRES

Inspected by OSBORN & MERCER. (15,215.)

A Few Miles from Salisbury

HANDSOME GEORGIAN RESIDENCE
containing a fine suite of reception rooms, about twenty-
five bed and dressing rooms, several bathrooms, etc.Modern appointments, including Electric Light,
Central Heating, etc.

AMPLE STABLING, ETC. COTTAGES

Standing 500ft. up, in Dignified Old Grounds,
approached by long carriage drives through
beautiful woodlands, and

Finely Timbered Park of 500 Acres

For Sale, or would Let on Lease with Shooting over

3,000 ACRES

Inspected by Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,171.)

£8,000

123 Acres

NORTHANTS

In a good hunting centre.
South Aspect. Good Views.
Approached by a carriage drive.

Attractive Georgian Residence

Four reception, twelve bedrooms, three bathrooms.
Modernised with Electric Light.
Central Heating, etc.STABLING. GARAGE. FARMERY.
TWO COTTAGES.

Pleasant Gardens, shaded by mature trees.

Park and Woodlands

More land might be had up to

1,000 ACRES

For Sale by OSBORN & MERCER. (16,608.)

A few miles from an important town and
main line station.This Beautiful
Old House,
dating from XVth CenturyGreat Hall, four reception rooms, fourteen
bedrooms, two bathrooms.Valuable Old Panelling.
Modernised at great cost with
Electric Light, etc.

Garages, Stabling, etc.



Old World Gardens

sheltered by fine woodlands, and with
lawns, terraces, etc.

4 Cottages

The remainder of the property is mostly
Grassland, in all about

350 ACRES

FOR SALE.

Owner's Agents, Messrs. OSBORN and
MERCER, as above. (16,778.)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.I.

Telephone No.
Grosvenor 1553 (4 lines).And at
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,
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IN THE BEAUFORT COUNTRY

20 minutes by car to Station. 11 hours to Town.
200ft. above Sea, on gravel, facing South with fine views.

THIS APPEALING

GEORGIAN MANOR HOUSE FOR SALE



Fifteen bedrooms, four bathrooms, fine lounge, three reception, and billiards or dance room, first rate offices. Co.'s electricity. Central heating, etc. LONG AVENUE DRIVE THROUGH PARKLANDS. LODGE AND COTTAGES. HUNTER STABLING and matured. Grounds with grand old trees, walled garden, remainder pasture and pasture orcharding, about

45 ACRES ALL TOLD

Apply GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.I. (A.3390.)

WANTED

ONE OF THE STATELY HOMES
OF ENGLAND

situated within about 150 miles of London.

THE MANSION

which should be TUDOR, JACOBEAN or ELIZABETHAN architecture, must contain ample accommodation for a FAMILY OF DISTINCTION with a large staff.

From fifty to sixty bedrooms, with proportionate number of bathrooms and a suite of reception rooms in keeping.

GOOD GROUNDS and amenities including PARK of a few Hundred Acres.

Replies should be addressed to "LADY C." c/o GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I.

BLACKMORE VALE

REDUCED PRICE TO EFFECT A SALE.

THIS DELIGHTFUL
STONE BUILT HOUSE

approached by long drive with lodge.
Twelve bed, three bath, three reception rooms.
Main water; central heating; main electric light available.

GARAGES, STABLING FOR FIVE.

TWO COTTAGES.

BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS

Two tennis lawns, paddocks, etc., about

14½ ACRES

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I. (3935.)

CHARMING SMALL MANOR HOUSE

65 MILES NORTH OF TOWN

FOR SALE AT A VERY
REASONABLE PRICE

containing:—

Eight bed and dressing rooms.
Two bathrooms. Three reception rooms.
Excellent domestic offices.

Electric Light. Central Heating.
Modern Drainage.



TWO COTTAGES. GARAGE.

STABLING.

Picturesque Garden and Two Paddocks, in all about

10½ ACRES

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London.

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127, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.I.

Telephone:
Gros. 2838
(3 lines).30 ACRES. Lodges, Cottage, Farmery. £8,500 ONLY
BERKS, NEAR HANTS BORDERS

Five miles Reading. On high ground and near Basingstoke and Newbury.
A GENTLEMAN'S SMALL ESTATE in lovely grounds, with woodland, paddocks, walled garden, GARAGES.
Twelve bedrooms, five bathrooms, four reception rooms. Central heating and modern improvements.
FREEHOLD.

TURNER LORD & RANSOM, 127, Mount Street, London, W.I.

SPORTING, RESIDENTIAL,
AGRICULTURAL

750 ACRES OR 1,200 ACRES HANTS (400ft. above sea).—CHARMING OLD HOUSE in wooded surroundings. Twelve bedrooms (b. and c.), three bathrooms, four reception rooms, billiard room, schoolroom, servants' hall, etc. Central heating and electric light, etc. Lodge, Cottages. Fine old Grounds; outbuildings, paddocks. (Three Farms Let and producing £900 p.a.) FREEHOLD FOR SALE.
TURNER LORD & RANSOM, 127, Mount Street, London, W.I.

GRAVEL SOIL. IN OPEN COUNTRY



High up—30 minutes London from Main Station.

WEST SURREY.—Adjacent to beautiful Heath, extensive views, convenient for Golf at Sunningdale, etc. Lodge, cottage, carriage drives, ten bedrooms (b. and c.), two bathrooms, large hall, four reception rooms. Central heating and main water, electricity. Garages, stabling, etc. HARD COURT, grass court, prettily timbered Grounds, walled garden, etc., with either 22 ACRES or LESS.
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PARSONS, WELCH & COWELL
AUCTIONEERS AND ESTATE AGENTS,
SEVENOAKS.

FULL SOUTH EXPOSURE



SEVENOAKS (in an ideal position; close to the beautiful Wiltshire golf course and the country club).—Five bedrooms, bathroom, two reception rooms, maids' sitting room and good offices, cloakroom. Company's electric light, water and gas. Very charming Gardens with lawns, herbaceous borders, etc.; in all ONE-AND-THREE-QUARTER ACRES. Brick and tiled garage; greenhouse, etc.—Price and full particulars from Sole Agents, PARSONS, WELCH & COWELL, 129, High Street, Sevenoaks. (Tel.: 36.)

BRUTON, KNOWLES & CO.

ESTATE AGENTS,
SURVEYORS AND AUCTIONEERS,
ALBION CHAMBERS, KING STREET.

Telegrams: "Brutons, Gloucester." GLOUCESTER.

Telephone No.: 2267 (2 lines).

GLOS.—FOR SALE, attractive COUNTRY RESIDENCE, with excellent range of stabling and garages, modernised farm buildings, modern cottage, and about 94 ACRES of sound pasture and pasture orcharding. Halls, three reception rooms, six bedrooms, nursery suite (with bathroom), bathroom, etc. Gas; central heating throughout; electric light generated on property. Attractive grounds. Hunting, polo and golf.

Particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES & CO., Estate Agents, Gloucester. (W. 134.)

GLOS. (midway between Cheltenham and Gloucester).—FOR SALE, detached RESIDENCE: hall, three reception rooms, four principal bedrooms, attic bedroom, two boxrooms, bathroom, etc. Gas; Company's water; electricity available. Garden and paddock-orchard. Vacant possession. PRICE £1,650.

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GLOS. (on the Cotswolds).—FOR SALE, very attractive small COUNTRY RESIDENCE: in magnificent position. Hall, two reception rooms, three bedrooms, bathroom. Electric light, gas and Company's water; partial central heating. Garden and small orchard. Garage. PRICE £2,000.

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STAMFORD, LINCS

Within 2½ hours of London.



THE HOUSE is stone built and is a fine example of the Georgian period. Large entrance hall, four reception rooms, six bedrooms, bathroom, large kitchen; fine cellarage. Garden; conservatory; garage for two cars. Rent £100. Situate off the main road. Stamford is a beautiful old-world town with all social amenities.—Inquiries to the Owner, J. E. C. POTTER, The Nuns, Stamford.

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GLORIOUS VIEWS OVER THE MENDIP HILLS

7 MILES FROM BATH WITH EXCELLENT SERVICE OF EXPRESS TRAINS TO LONDON.

ATTRACTIVELY BUILT RESIDENCE

of local stone, standing high in its own miniature park. Sandy soil. Four reception rooms, six best bedrooms, nursery suite and excellent servants' accommodation, five bathrooms; Studio with Gallery.

Company's Gas, Electricity
and Water.

STABLING, GARAGE, LODGE,
CHAUFFEUR'S FLAT.



Attractive Pleasure Gardens and large kitchen garden enclosed by a red brick wall, the whole being studded with specimen trees, and extending to about

45 ACRES

FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE PRICE

Highly Recommended by CURTIS & HENSON. (14,114a.)

VIEWS OF THE SURREY HILLS (one mile from electric train service to London).—Attractive RESIDENCE, very pleasantly situated; four reception rooms, eleven bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms; good domestic offices. Main electricity, gas and water. Central heating. Three bedroomed entrance lodge. Excellent garages; stabling and outbuildings. Delightful Grounds extending to over THREE ACRES, with terraced rose gardens, hanging rock gardens, lawns, flower borders and attractive pine walks. Just in the market. Executor's Sale. CURTIS & HENSON.

ADJOINING SUNNINGDALE GOLF COURSE.

—Modern House of distinction in delightful wooded country. Three reception rooms, flower room, cloakroom, well-equipped domestic offices, ten bedrooms (many fitted with basins), three bathrooms. Central heating; main electric light; Co.'s water. Garage. Gardener's Cottage. Attractive gardens and grounds in keeping with the house; formal and flower gardens, hard tennis court.

FOR SALE WITH 8 ACRES. Riding in Windsor Great Park. Racing. Golf. (13,100a.)

AN EXCEPTIONAL MODERN RESIDENCE.—Beautifully placed in rural Kent, within easy reach of good train service to London. Panelled hall, four reception rooms, twelve bed and dressing rooms, five perfectly fitted bathrooms, sun loggia, domestic offices (with labour-saving conveniences). Central heating; main water and electricity. Entrance lodge and two cottages. Garage (for three cars). Timbered Grounds of great charm, with lawns and terraces leading to three-acre lake; paddocks in all about 25 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. Recommended with every confidence.

IN DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY NEAR CHIDDINGFOLD

EXCELLENT SERVICE OF ELECTRIC TRAINS TO LONDON.

SUBSTANTIALLY-BUILT HOUSE

with South aspect.

THREE RECEPTION ROOMS.
SEVEN BEDROOMS.
TWO BATHROOMS.

Co.'s Electric Light, Power, Gas
and Water.
Modern Drainage.



GOLF.

HUNTING.

TROUT FISHING.

DOUBLE GARAGE.

MODERN COTTAGE.

WELL-MATURED AND SECLUDED GARDENS

with fine trees and flowering shrubs.
Tennis Lawn and old Orchard.
Meadow.

IN ALL ABOUT
6½ ACRES

FOR SALE AT A REDUCED PRICE

Further Particulars from CURTIS & HENSON. (5035.)

BETWEEN READING AND GORING.—A delightful TUDOR HOUSE, standing about 400ft. above sea level. The House contains some fine timbering and has been carefully modernised. Two reception rooms and lounge. Ten bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms. Central heating; electric light; modern drainage. Garage; Tithe Barn. Attractive old-world Grounds, two tennis courts, kitchen garden. TO BE LET ON LEASE with 3-5 ACRES. (13,358.)

OVERLOOKING WOODED BUCKINGHAMSHIRE (less than 20 miles from Marble Arch, yet entirely secluded as it is approached by a long carriage drive).—Attractive RESIDENCE recently modernised at great expense and now forming an ideal country home near London. Four reception rooms, nine bedrooms, four bathrooms, up-to-date domestic offices. Main electricity and central heating. Garage and chauffeur's rooms. Matured gardens and grounds with fine timbering and sloping lawns to the West; Tennis court. FOR SALE with EIGHT OR MORE ACRES. (15,887.)

IN THE LOVELY MEON VALLEY. About 58 miles from London, Winchester, 11 miles. Attractive old-world Residence, formerly an old coaching inn, pleasantly situated on the outskirts of a charming village. Lounge hall, two reception rooms, five bedrooms, bathroom. Good domestic offices. Central heating. Electric light. Garage, with staff rooms over. Pleasant Gardens, easy to run. Excellent Cottage and Three-acre Paddock can be purchased. ONLY £2,750 for a QUICK SALE.

Hunting with the H.H. and other packs. Trout-fishing.

A BEAUTIFUL TUDOR HOUSE

TWO MILES FROM BEACHY HEAD.

LONDON QUICKLY REACHED BY NEW ELECTRIC TRAIN SERVICE.

SURROUNDED BY
10,000 ACRES OF DOWNLAND
IMMUNE FROM
DEVELOPMENT.

GREAT HALL WITH GALLERY.
FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS.
NINE BEDROOMS.
FOUR BATHROOMS.
Central Heating.
Free Malt Water.

XVII CENTURY COTTAGES.
STABLING AND GARAGE.
DONKEY WATER WHEEL.



GARDENS AND GROUNDS IN EXCELLENT CONDITION, WITH FINE LAWNS AND TREES, ROSE GARDEN AND HERBACEOUS BORDERS. WELL-STOCKED KITCHEN GARDEN.

GREATLY REDUCED PRICE WITH 36 ACRES

Highly recommended by CURTIS & HENSON from personal knowledge.

14, MOUNT STREET,
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

WILSON & CO.

CHARTERED SURVEYORS, LAND AGENTS AND AUCTIONEERS

LOVELY OLD XVTH CENTURY HOUSE 50 MINUTES FROM LONDON G.W.R.



SET WITHIN ITS OWN
ESTATE OF 115 ACRES

MESSRS. WILSON & CO.
strongly recommend this small
PERIOD HOUSE with its very fine
galleried hall, original oak paneling
and staircase. The whole place in
wonderful order. Nine bedrooms, two
bathrooms, three reception rooms. Main
electricity and water. Central heating.
Four cottages. Garages. Farmery and
old tithe barn. Old-world gardens
with ornamental water.

FOR SALE
AT A TEMPTING PRICE

Agents, WILSON & CO.,
14, Mount Street, W.1.



ORIGINAL XVTH CENTURY MANOR

ONE OF THE MOST PERFECT OLD HOUSES IN THE
WEST OF ENGLAND.

Good sporting and residential part, two-and-a-half hours from London by
G.W.R. express.

THE ESTATE IS ABOUT 100 ACRES IN EXTENT

and the gardens are of an old-world character in keeping with the ancient structure.
The whole place in wonderful order. Eleven bedrooms, three bathrooms, fine galleried
hall, three reception rooms.

SUPERB PANELLING AND DECORATIVE FEATURES OF THE PERIOD.

Central heating. Electric light. Garages. Stabling. Cottages.

FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE PRICE

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LOVELY QUEEN ANNE HOUSE IN SPORTING PART OF BUCKS

Occupying a magnificent position 600ft. above sea level.

AMIDST GLORIOUS ROLLING COUNTRY AND FINE BEECH WOODS.

Fourteen bedrooms, three bathrooms, billiard room; period paneling
in three reception rooms. Main electric light and water; central heating.

STABLING. COTTAGES. FARMERY AND OUTBUILDINGS
DELIGHTFUL OLD GARDENS
with many fine specimen trees.

ABOUT 100 ACRES

Agents, WILSON & CO., 14, Mount Street, W.1.

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LONDON, W.1.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Telephone:
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BETWEEN BASINGSTOKE & PETERSFIELD



Unspoilt Selborne country.
FINE OLD HOUSE WITH

QUEEN ANNE CHARACTERISTICS

Eight bedrooms, three bathrooms, four reception rooms.
Company's water. Electric light. Basins in bedrooms.
CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT

Garages. Stabling. Cottages.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS AND PADDOCKS.

12 ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Details of Owner's Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR,
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CONSTABLE'S COUNTRY SUFFOLK

CLOSE TO
SUDBURY, CLARE, AND LAVENHAM
A MAGNIFICENT HOUSE

IN A VERY LOVELY SITUATION STANDING IN
100-ACRE PARK BOUNDED BY A RIVER.

Thirteen bedrooms, five bathrooms, four reception rooms.

Central heating. Every conceivable convenience.

EXQUISITELY APPOINTED AND
FURNISHED.

GARAGES. STABLING. THREE COTTAGES.

Lower house. Home Farm.

HARD COURT, NATURAL SWIMMING POOL,

GLORIOUS GARDENS.

ABOUT 180 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

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COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY ASHDOWN FOREST



Marvellous position with panoramic views.
WELL-PLANNED RESIDENCE

SUSSEX FARMHOUSE STYLE.

Nine bedrooms, two bathrooms, three reception rooms.
Electric light. Water supply. Central heating.

GARAGE. BADMINTON COURT. COTTAGE.
GARDENS OF MOST UNIQUE
CHARACTER.

VERY REASONABLE PRICE FOUR ACRES

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ALSO AT RUGBY, OXFORD, BIRMINGHAM, & CHIPPING NORTON.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

In a splendid sporting centre.
GEORGIAN COUNTRY RESIDENCE



Amidst beautiful rural surroundings, everything in first-rate
order; southern aspect. Hall, four sitting rooms, eleven
bed and dressing rooms, four bathrooms.

Electric light. Central heating.

Exceptionally good hunter stabling, garage for three cars.
six cottages and men's rooms.

ABOUT 21 ACRES IN ALL

Including good paddocks. It is believed more land adjoining
can be purchased.

Thoroughly recommended by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK,
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DORSET

In that lovely stretch of country east of Dorchester.
XVIITH CENTURY RESIDENCE



Modernised and in splendid order, having panelled rooms
and a lovely staircase; four sitting rooms, nine bed and
dressing rooms, two bathrooms (also annexe for married
couple of four rooms and bathroom).

Electric light. Plentiful supply of water. Central heating.
Independent hot water. Garage and stabling. Lodge and
Cottage. Good fishing stream flows through gardens.

Attractive gardens, grounds and pasture, of about

NINE ACRES

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DEVONSHIRE

About 100 ACRES, and about One-and-a-half Miles of
Good Trout Fishing. (In addition to that provided by a
well-stocked trout pool of over TWO ACRES.)



Accommodation: three sitting rooms, ten bed and dressing
rooms, billiards room (or lounge), three bathrooms,
excellent domestic offices, including servants' hall.

Main electricity. Central heating. Splendid water supply
and drainage system.

Stabling and garage. Farmhouse and buildings.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £6,500 OR OFFER

(Income from farm, which is let, about £135 per annum.)
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HERTFORDSHIRE. 20 MILES FROM LONDON

EXCELLENT TRAIN SERVICE ON TWO MAIN LINES TO THE CITY AND WEST END.

QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE
completely unspoiled, of mellowed red brick with tiled roof, retaining most of the original features, including paneling and fireplaces, with imposing entrance and entrance gates.

FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS,
EIGHT PRINCIPAL BED AND
DRESSING ROOMS.
SIX SERVANTS' ROOMS,
NURSERIES AND SIX BATHROOMS



Company's water. Central heating.
Electric light.
Modern drainage.

GARDENS AND GROUNDS

pleasantly laid out and well timbered;
inexpensive to maintain.

WIDE EXPANSES OF LAWN.
HARD COURT.
KITCHEN GARDEN.

GARAGES.

STABLES.

HOME FARM BUILDINGS.

BAILIFF'S HOUSE, AND LODGE.

60 ACRES IN ALL. FOR SALE, FREEHOLD

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HAM COMMON, RICHMOND PARK A LUXURIOUSLY EQUIPPED HOUSE IN AN UNEQUALLED POSITION

ENJOYING COMPLETE SECLUSION AND QUIET.



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ON THE SOUTH DOWNS

FAVOURITE PART OF WEST SUSSEX AND FACING DUE SOUTH, WITHIN FIVE MILES OF THE COAST, AND EASY REACH OF CHICHESTER AND ARUNDEL. CONVENIENT FOR HUNTING, GOLF AND SAILING.

BEAUTIFUL REPLICA OF A TUDOR HOUSE

IN PERFECT ORDER, SURROUNDED BY BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED PARK-LIKE LAND, APPROACHED BY LONG CARRIAGE DRIVE WITH LODGE ENTRANCES.

THIRTEEN BED AND DRESSING, FIVE BATH AND FIVE RECEPTION.

THREE COTTAGES.

SQUASH RACQUETS COURT



LOVELY OLD SUSSEX
FARMHOUSE
WITH BATHROOMS.

Main Electric Light and Power and Water.
Central Heating.

GRAVEL SUBSOIL.

CHARMING GROUNDS
CROQUET AND TENNIS LAWNS,

HARD TENNIS COURT.

EXCELLENT PASTURE IN PADDOCKS
IN ALL ABOUT
67½ ACRES

TO BE SOLD AT
A REASONABLE PRICE

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FOR SALE

BALCOMBE FOREST

470FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL, COMMANDING GLORIOUS VIEWS OVER ASHDOWN FOREST AND CROWBOROUGH BEACON.

Express electric service to Town in 38 minutes.

EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-APPOINTED HOUSE

Approached by long carriage drive,
standing in about

52 ACRES

Principally Beautiful Woodland, with
winding walks, stream, and three ornamental ponds.



NINE BED, DRESSING ROOMS,
THREE BATHROOMS, BILLIARDS
ROOM, THREE RECEPTION and
LOUNGE HALL and GARDEN ROOM.

Electric light.
Central heating. Company's water.
Septic tank drainage.

COTTAGE
and
BUNGALOW (with bathrooms).
GARAGE (for several cars).

INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS
CROQUET AND TENNIS LAWN,
FERNDEN HARD COURT
and
KITCHEN GARDEN.

Inspected and strongly recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & CO. (30,974.)

JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

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ERNEST FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.
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DORSET

SITUATED ABOUT 2½ MILES FROM A PICTURESQUE COASTAL VILLAGE AND ABOUT HALF-A-MILE FROM A GOOD MARKET TOWN.
TO BE LET UNFURNISHED, THIS IMPORTANT RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER (OR WOULD BE SOLD).



CHARMING GROUNDS, WALLED KITCHEN GARDEN, TENNIS COURT: THE WHOLE COVERING AN AREA OF ABOUT 4½ ACRES
HUNTING. GOLF. SHOOTING. FISHING.

Particulars of FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

DORSET

ABOUT THREE MILES FROM WIMBORNE.
HUNTING WITH THREE PACKS.

SEVEN MILES FROM THE BEAUTIFUL POOLE HARBOUR
DELIGHTFULLY SITUATED ON HIGH GROUND



THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS ARE
INEXPENSIVE TO MAINTAIN AND
INCLUDE LAWNS AND SHRUBBERY,
TWO FULL-SIZED TENNIS COURTS,
WALLED KITCHEN GARDENS,

ORCHARD, PARKLANDS AND WOOD-
LANDS, THE WHOLE EXTENDING
TO AN AREA OF ABOUT

14 ACRES

LOW PRICE £3,500
FREEHOLD

ADDITIONAL LAND CAN BE HAD IF REQUIRED.
FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

SUITABLE FOR PRIVATE RESIDENCE, SCHOOL OR INSTITUTION
SURREY

OCCUPYING A HIGH POSITION WITH EXTENSIVE UNINTERRUPTED VIEWS. CLOSE TO THE FAMOUS DEVIL'S PUNCH BOWL AND FRENSHAM PONDS.

40 MILES OF HYDE PARK CORNER.
2½ MILES FROM FARNHAM.
12 MILES FROM GUILDFORD.

THIS VERY ATTRACTIVE
AND WELL SITUATED
FREEHOLD PROPERTY

With well-built and carefully planned
TUDOR STYLE RESIDENCE, con-
taining twenty-one bedrooms, six bath-
rooms, six reception rooms, billiard room,
complete domestic offices.

LAVATORY BASINS IN MANY
BEDROOMS.

EXCELLENT GARAGES.

STABLING AND CHAUFFEUR'S
QUARTERS.



LODGE ENTRANCE.

DELIGHTFUL WELL-KEPT GARDENS,
KITCHEN GARDEN.

An eighteen-hole golf course has been laid
out and could easily be reconditioned.

Company's gas and water.
Electric lighting plant.
Modern central heating.

21 ACRES

PRICE £8,000 FREEHOLD

Illustrated particulars and plan may be
obtained of Messrs. FOX & SONS, 44-50,
Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

OCCUPYING ONE OF THE FINEST POSITIONS ON THE SOUTH HAMPSHIRE COAST

ENJOYING MAGNIFICENT SEA VIEWS FROM ALL PRINCIPAL ROOMS. APPROACH TO PRIVATE BATHING BEACH.

Miniature nine-hole putting and approach
course immediately overlooking the sea.

TO BE SOLD
THIS PERFECTLY APPOINTED
FREEHOLD MARINE
RESIDENCE

sheltered from the Coast by a belt of trees.

NINE BEDROOMS
(some of which are fitted basins h. and c.
supply).

TWO BATHROOMS,
THREE RECEPTION ROOMS,
SUN LOUNGE,
SERVANTS' SITTING ROOM,
KITCHEN AND COMPLETE DOMESTIC
OFFICES.



GARAGE (for three cars), with chauffeur's
room.

GREENHOUSE.

Companies' gas, water and electricity.
Radiators.

TASTEFULLY ARRANGED

GARDENS AND GROUNDS
including "Gaze's" hard tennis court (with
rose-covered trellis surround and summer
house), rose garden, herbaceous beds and
borders, crazy paving paths, rock gardens,
natural woodland; the whole extending to
an area of about

10 ACRES

Particulars of FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

FOX & SONS, BOURNEMOUTH (TEN OFFICES); AND SOUTHAMPTON

ESTATE HARRODS OFFICES

Ken. 1490. Telegrams: "Estate, Harrods, London."

A YACHTSMAN'S IDEAL OVERLOOKING THE HAMBLE RIVER



THE SOUTHERN ELEVATION.

FINELY TIMBERED GROUNDS, terraced lawn, tennis court, with pavilion, shrubberies, walled kitchen garden and paddock, in all about SIX ACRES, and with nearly 28 ACRES of agricultural land surrounding, the whole extends to about

34 ACRES. FREEHOLD £6,250

Inspected and strongly recommended by HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.

c.9.

A MOST DESIRABLE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

In a secluded position, surrounded by its own well-wooded lands, only $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from village, river and station, and 400 yards from bus routes. Southampton just under 5 miles.

Hall, 3 reception, 6 principal and 3 secondary bedrooms, 4 bathrooms; heated conservatory; usual offices. Central heating throughout. Co.'s electricity. Modern drainage.

LODGE (5 rooms). GARAGES (4 cars). Flat over (5 rooms). STABLING FOR 2.



THE VIEW FROM THE TERRACE.

AN OPPORTUNITY SELDOM OFFERED.
HAM, SURREY

THIRTEEN-AND-A-HALF YEARS' UNFURNISHED LEASE.

s.1.

FINE OLD GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Thoroughly modernised, right up to date. Tasteful decorations, permanent improvements, etc., at great expense. 4 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms (all fitted basins, h. and c., heated towel rails), 3 bathrooms.

All main services. Full system of central heating. The GROUNDS form a unique feature, absolutely secluded, having fine old timber, ornamental trees, wide spreading lawns, rose garden surrounded by yew hedges, excellent tennis court, wide herbaceous borders, flower garden with fish pond, rhododendron walk, putting green, productive kitchen garden and orchard, paddock.

2 garages, stabling, 2 cottages, chauffeur's flat, etc. IN ALL ABOUT 10 ACRES.

REASONABLE TERMS ASKED



Confidently recommended from inspection by HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED SMALL MODERN LABOUR-SAVING HOUSE

c.7.

In a very favourite district, on the Kent and Surrey borders, within daily reach of Town.

Radiators. Co.'s water, electric light and gas.



ALL MODERN CONVENiences.

Oregon pine woodwork. Flush doors. Large double living room which can be divided, loggia, 4 bedrooms, well-fitted bathroom, modern kitchen.

Inexpensive GARDEN, with lawns, flower beds, kitchen garden.

ABOUT HALF-AN-ACRE

LARGE GARAGE AND GARDEN SHED.

FREEHOLD £1,950

A House that can easily be run with daily help and a gardener one day a week.

HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.

OVERLOOKING TORBAY AND BERRY HEAD

c.6.

Glorious situation on this lovely part of the South Devon coast sheltered from the north and east and exceptionally bright and sunny.

A MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER

Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception, 7 bedrooms (fitted basins h. and c.), 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting room.

Main water. Electricity and gas.

LARGE GARAGE AND SMALLER ONE.

ABOUT 1½ ACRES

Well-stocked GROUNDS: fruit, vegetables, flowers, etc.

FREEHOLD £3,500



HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.

ONLY 4 MILES FROM THE WEST END

s.2.

Amenities of the country with the convenience of Town. 400ft. above sea level.

WELL-APPOINTED, ARTISTICALLY DECORATED, IMPOSING RESIDENCE

On 2 floors only. Thoroughly up to date.

Central heating. Independent hot water. Electric light and power. Fitted basins in bedrooms. Parquet floors.

Hall, cloakroom, 3 fine reception, 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, complete offices.

Spacious heated Garage. Chauffeur's cottage.

Matured, fully stocked, parklike GROUNDS of about 4 ACRES.

2 valuable road frontages, available for development if desired.

FOR SALE



THE GARDEN TERRACE.

Strongly recommended by HARRODS LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.

BRANCH OFFICES: WEST BYFLEET (Tel. 149), and HASLEMERE (Tel. 607), SURREY



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125, HIGH STREET, SEVENOAKS, KENT | STATION ROAD EAST, OXTED, SURREY | 45, HIGH STREET, REIGATE, SURREY

Telephone: SEVENOAKS, 1147-8

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BRASTED AND TOYS HILL

Close to these noted beauty spots. Only 25 miles from London.



THIS DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY HOME, entirely secluded and containing: 11 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 4 Reception Rooms, Servants' Hall, and excellent offices.

Central Heating. Electricity.

GARAGE (for 4).

INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS OF 4 ACRES.

In excellent order.

FREEHOLD ONLY £6,750

Sole Agents, F. D. IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., 125, High Street, SEVENOAKS (Tel.: 1147-8); and at Oxted and Reigate.

HIGH SHELTERED POSITION

Between Oxted and Sevenoaks, with magnificent southern panoramic views.



CHARMING AND WELL-EQUIPPED MODERN RESIDENCE, with Lounge Hall, 4 Reception Rooms, 12 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms and complete offices.

Co.'s water. Electricity. Central heating.

Garages. Stabling. Chauffeur's Flat and Cottage.

Beautiful matured Grounds, Orchard, Paddock and Woodland.

9 OR 16 ACRES.

BARGAIN PRICE FREEHOLD

Particulars of F. D. IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., Station Road East, OXTED, SURREY (Tel.: 240); and at Sevenoaks and Reigate.

A BEAUTIFUL OLD HOUSE

Set amidst a Delightful Garden.



SURREY. In an old country lane, about a mile from London and the Coast. A CHARMING OLD HOUSE with mellow tiled roof, half timbered walls, thoroughly modernised, but retaining the old-world atmosphere. 4 Bed and Dressing Rooms, Bathroom, 2 Reception Rooms, Sun Room. Garage for Two Cars, etc.

ONE OR THREE ACRES. *Co.'s Water and Electricity.*

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WITH ONE ACRE.

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COUNTRY PROPERTIES. TOWN HOUSES AND FLATS. INVESTMENTS.
2, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.I (And at Shrewsbury)

OXENDON HALL, MARKET HARBOROUGH.

Well-situated for Meets of THE FERNIE AND WOODLAND PYTCHELEY

Approached by Drive; 450ft. up; South aspect; mainly

ON TWO FLOORS.

LOUNGE HALL, MUSIC or DANCE, and THREE RECEPTION.

SIXTEEN BED and DRESSING ROOMS, FOUR BATHROOMS.

Up-to-Date.

In excellent order throughout. Exceptionally charming Setting.



IN THE PYTCHELEY COUNTRY

Beautifully timbered OLD-WORLD GARDENS.

Hard and Grass Tennis Courts.

FINE STABLING, HOME FARM, COTTAGES.

FOR SALE

WITH 30 or 90 ACRES

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Telephone: Kens 0855.

JUST IN THE MARKET HAMPSHIRE, BETWEEN ALTON AND WINCHESTER

FINE, GEORGIAN WITH ADAMS FEATURES.—Lounge hall, four reception, twelve bedrooms (fitted basins), three baths. Central heating. Main services. Garage (four cars). Stabling. Three cottages. Lovely old gardens. Grounds and park-like paddocks.

30 ACRES. FREEHOLD

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Tel.: Kens. 0855.)

CHARMING CHARACTER HOUSE SUFFOLK

LOVELY COUNTRY FEW MILES IPSWICH
PICTURESQUE CREAM-COLOURED RESIDENCE, secluded in extremely pretty garden and of very economical upkeep. Four reception, seven bed, bath, good offices. Electric light. Central heating. Garage. Cottage.

ORCHARD AND MEADOWS, 13 ACRES.

FREEHOLD £3,250

Recommended by BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3.

AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING ESTATE BARGAIN

NEAR MARLBOROUGH

900 ACRES ONLY £10,500

SOUND MIXED LANDS with superior RESIDENCE, approached by drive and placed in attractive garden. Electric light installed. Good buildings and stock yards. Four cottages. Excellent shooting and first-rate hunting and favourite residential locality.

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FOR SALE. BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS.

SUSSEX HIGHLANDS



"KIONA," CROWBOROUGH.

In one of the finest positions in the South, overlooking Ashdown Forest.

A CHARMING FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, adjacent to famous golf links and standing quite secluded in well-kept matured grounds with lodge entrance. Three reception, billiards or music room, bathmans' hall and usual offices, seven bedrooms, three bathrooms, two attics. All main services. Stabling. Garage and chauffeur's flat. With FIVE or SEVENTEEN ACRES. Auction on premises January 26th, 1938. Illustrated particulars from—

Messrs. PONSFORD & DEVENISH, Solicitors, 13, Walbrook, E.C.4; or the Auctioneers Mr. R. T. INNES, The Cross, Crowborough, and Messrs. CHARLES J. PARRIS, The Broadway, Crowborough.

NEWBURY & DISTRICT.—ESTATE AGENTS.
DREWEATT, WATSON & BARTON
(ESTAB. 1759.)

LAND, ESTATES AND OTHER PROPERTIES WANTED

ESTATE WANTED TO PURCHASE

A RESIDENTIAL

AND

AGRICULTURAL ESTATE

OF 1,000 TO 2,500 ACRES IN THE

SOUTHERN COUNTIES

is earnestly sought by a buyer prepared to pay full market value and decide immediately.

NO COMMISSION REQUIRED.

Please send particulars and price to "C. F.", c/o GRIBBLE, BOOTH & SHEPHERD, Basingstoke.

ADVERTISER WISHES TO ACQUIRE preferably on the Arrow, Lugg, or Monnow, **RESIDENTIAL ESTATE** with Fishing Rights (both banks). Would take over Farms, etc., up to 250 Acres.—"A.135" c/o COUNTRY LIFE Offices, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

URGENTLY WANTED for a great many serious purchasers, **COUNTRY RESIDENCES OF CHARACTER**, with from three to twelve bedrooms and secluded grounds in any of the South-Western Counties but not in built-up areas. Will owners who wish to obtain a fair price without undue trouble write to GRIBBLE Booth & Shepherd, at Basingstoke or Yeovil, who will respect their confidence.

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F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY ESTATES AND HOUSES

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Telephone: REGENT 2481.

LOW PRICE FOR QUICK SALE

25 miles South. Central for hunting with Old Surrey and Burstow. Between Godstone and East Grinstead.



A MOST CHARMING COUNTRY HOUSE

with every conceivable modern comfort. In perfect order. Three reception, billiards room, seven or eight bedrooms, two bathrooms, dressing room.

Main electricity, gas and water. Central heating. Basins in most of the bedrooms.

Entrance lodge. Cottage.

GARAGE AND STABLING.

TENNIS COURT, LOVELY OLD GARDENS AND
LARGE PADDOCK.

NEARLY FOUR ACRES

RECOMMENDED AT £3,975



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In a small, unspoilt village, 300ft. up.

BETWEEN MAIDSTONE AND SITTINGBOURNE



EARLY GEORGIAN HOUSE

With main electricity, gas and water.

Large, lofty rooms.

Lounge hall, three reception, eight bedrooms, two bathrooms.

Central heating.

GARAGE.
STABLING.

Tennis Court.

Well-stocked and beautifully timbered gardens and orchard.

FOUR ACRES, FREEHOLD. ONLY 2,000 GUINEAS
HUNTING, GOLF AND SHOOTING AVAILABLE

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Executors' Sale.

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE



34 miles London. Easy reach of golf at Harpsden, Temple and Huntercombe.

CHARMING HOUSE

With many unusual features. Being on outskirts of a town all main services are connected. Billiards or music room (27ft. by 20ft.), two other reception, sun lounge, eight bedrooms, two bathrooms.

Double garage. Tennis court. Lovely grounds, nearly

TWO ACRES

FREEHOLD £3,500

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SURREY. £1,950

EASY REACH OF GOLF COURSES AT
BURHILL AND ST. GEORGE'S HILL.

30 minutes Waterloo.

Artistic labour-saving HOUSE in a pleasant garden one-third of an acre and inexpensive of upkeep. Three reception, five bedrooms, bathroom.

Partial central heating.

Basins in bedrooms. All main services.

GARAGE.

A GENUINE BARGAIN.

Tempting opportunity for the small buyer.
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Over 400 ft. above sea level, on gravel soil. Close to the Common, golf club and the famous school. 26 miles London.

REDUCED TO £2,500

Well-built and comfortably appointed PRE-WAR HOUSE on slope of hill with pretty views. Three reception, seven bedrooms, two bathrooms.

Main electricity, gas and water. Central heating.

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WELL-STOCKED GARDEN; THIRD OF AN ACRE.

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KENT. 32 MILES LONDON

HIGH AND SECLUDED POSITION BETWEEN TONBRIDGE AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS.



CHARMING OLD HOUSE

With large, lofty and airy rooms. Four reception, seven bedrooms, dressing room and bathroom.

All main services.

Garage and stabling. Tennis court and lovely, well-timbered grounds. Over

TWO ACRES

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A SMALL COTSWOLD HOUSE

OF CONSIDERABLE ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST.

Lovely situation near Cirencester.

Tudor period, stone built, with stone-tiled roof and mulioned windows. Three reception, five or six bedrooms, bathroom. With valuable woodland having long river frontage. House stands on plateau 450ft. up.

EXCELLENT PASTURE.

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C. M. STANFORD & SON

23, HIGH STREET,
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AUCTIONEERS
VALUERS
Telephone: 3165 (3 lines)

A "SHOW PLACE" OF THE EASTERN COUNTIES

DESCRIBED IN "ESSEX BOOK OF MONUMENTS" AND SUBJECT OF AN ARTICLE IN "COUNTRY LIFE"

WONDERFUL XVth CENTURY HALF-TIMBERED HOUSE
COMBINING ALL THE FEATURES OF BYGONE TIMES WITH THE COMFORTS OF MODERN DAYS.

Five miles from Colchester, 18-hole Golf Course, and Station (London, one hour). Conveniently situated for East Coast resorts

YACHTING.
HUNTING.
SHOOTING, ETC.

High position with extensive views over undulating country.
GRAVEL SUBSOIL.
SOUTH ASPECT.
LINENFOLD PANELLING AND PERIOD DECORATIONS.



ELEVEN BED-ROOMS.
FOUR BATHROOMS.
FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS.
EXQUISITE TERRACED GARDENS
(Planned by Wallace.)

STABLING, GARAGES, TWO COTTAGES, MAIN SERVICES, CENTRAL HEATING.

THE WHOLE PROPERTY IS IN EXCELLENT ORDER.

ABOUT 90 ACRES OF GRASSLAND

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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DEVON AND S. & W. COUNTIES
THE ONLY COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED REGISTER
Price 2/6.
SELECTED LISTS FREE.
RIPON, BOSWELL & CO., F.A.I.,
(Est. 1884.) EXETER.

MARKET HARBOROUGH (Fernie Hunt country)
TO BE SOLD. Fresh on the market. COMPACT HUNTING BOX in choice laid-out gardens and grounds of ELEVEN ACRES. The House contains: Three large reception rooms, eight bedrooms, three bathrooms, etc. All main services connected. Stabling. Cottage. Reasonable price.—Apply, HOLLOWAY, PRICE & CO., Land Agents and Surveyors, Market Harborough.

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Business Established over 100 years.

FOLKESTONE.—HOUSE AGENTS.
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RUYTON PARK, SHROPSHIRE
Baschurch (G.W.R.) three miles, Shrewsbury, nine miles. Standing high on rock subsoil. Magnificent views. Five reception, twenty-one bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms. Electric light. Central heating. Ample water. STABLES. LARGE GARAGE. GARDENS AND ORNAMENTAL GROUNDS. HOME FARM OF 135 ACRES IF DESIRED. TWO COTTAGES. Good Game Coverts. Shooting. Fishing. Full particulars from Agents for the Estate, HALL, STEAVENSON & THOLE, Chartered Land Agents, College Hill, Shrewsbury. (Tel. No.: 2283.)

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GRIMS DYKE, HARROW WEALD

ON THE BORDERS OF MIDDLESEX AND HERTFORDSHIRE; STANDING ON GRAVEL 450 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL, MAGNIFICENT VIEWS.



THREE RECEPTION ROOMS.

BILLIARD ROOM.

MUSIC ROOM (27ft. by 40ft.).

FIFTEEN BEDROOMS. THREE BATHROOMS.

SERVANTS' QUARTERS.

LARGE GARAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS.

Central Heating. Company's Water. Electric Light Plant.

MEDIUM SIZED RESIDENCE TO BE LET

The Middlesex County Council having acquired the above Estate in connection with the proposed "Green Belt," are desirous of letting part of the Estate on

A SHORT LEASE

THE MANSION AND GROUNDS

have been kept in excellent order since the death of the late owner, Lady Gilbert.

38 ACRES

OF ORNAMENTAL WOODLANDS AND GARDENS.



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Telephone:
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37, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET,
GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.1

KENT—THE IDEAL HOUSE FOR A CITY MAN

REALLY FINE MODERN RESIDENCE

High up on a Common, under
30 miles of Town.

JUST REDUCED IN PRICE

ELEVEN BEDROOMS,
THREE BATHROOMS,
THREE OR FOUR RECEPTION
ROOMS.



Inspected and recommended by Messrs. COLLINS & COLLINS, 37, South Audley Street, London, W.1. (Folio 21,444.)

Electric light. Central heating.
Main water and drainage.
400ft. up. Extensive views.

EXCELLENT COTTAGE.
GARAGE AND STABLING.

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS AND
PADDOCK

in all about 10 ACRES
FOR SALE FREEHOLD

IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER AND AT
VERY REASONABLE FIGURE.

FAVOURITE HOME COUNTY A MOST ATTRACTIVE PROPERTY READY FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPATION

REDECORATED AND FINELY APPOINTED THROUGHOUT IN EXQUISITE TASTE.

EIGHT TO NINE BEDROOMS,
THREE MODERN BATHROOMS,
THREE RECEPTION ROOMS,
EXCELLENT AND COMPLETE OFFICES.

Central heating. All main services.

GRAVEL SOIL. GARAGE. SOUTHERN ASPECT.

MOST LOVELY OLD-WORLD GARDENS OF
ONE-AND-A-HALF ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD



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FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO. LONDON

AUCTIONEERS. CHARTERED SURVEYORS. LAND AGENTS.

ASHRIDGE PARK, HERTS

700FT. UP. ADJOINING GOLF COURSE.



Two very large sitting rooms, eight bedrooms, three bath rooms.
All modern conveniences.

GARAGE FOR TWO CARS.

4½ ACRES, OR LESS

£4,500 FREEHOLD

Full details from FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., as above. (11,687.)

AN UNREPEATABLE ATTRACTION.

SUSSEX (near sea).—Period FARMHOUSE, replete with all modern conveniences and guaranteed to please the most critical, containing much of the original old oak and expensively panelled with matured oak. The property has been completely renovated, expense being no object. It contains: Four reception rooms, six bedrooms, two bathrooms, kitchen, scullery, pantry, etc. There are numerous outbuildings, including garage, and sixteen loose boxes, large barn, etc. Chauffeur's accommodation. Very beautiful gardens, small orchard and large pasture field; in all about 30 ACRES. Electric light; main water; modern drainage; and central heating. Telephone. The property has been inspected by the agents, and can be thoroughly recommended, but to fully appreciate the finer qualities of this delightful property an inspection is advisable.—For further particulars, price and appointment to view, apply HOWES & CO., 10, Chapel Road, Worthing (Tel.: Worthing 579), from whom a complete list of country properties can be obtained upon application.

COUNTRY PROPERTIES

OF GOOD CHARACTER INSPECTED AND
PHOTOGRAPHED WITHOUT CHARGE BY

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SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1.
(Tel.: Regent 2481), who

SPECIALISE IN THE SALE OF
COUNTRY HOUSES AND ESTATES

AND HAVE EXCEPTIONAL FACILITIES FOR
THE PROMPT INTRODUCTION OF PURCHASERS.

SUSSEX

500FT. ABOVE SEA, WITH VIEWS TO THE COAST.



ELIZABETHAN FARMHOUSE
WITH ADDITIONS.

Four reception, eleven bedrooms, three bath rooms.
GARAGE FOR SIX CARS.

Electric light.
COTTAGE.

Inexpensive Gardens and Pastureland.

25 ACRES FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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LEICESTERSHIRE.
FOR SALE. VACANT POSSESSION.

THE WHITE HOUSE, BURTON LAZARS
(Melton Mowbray two miles, Oakham eight miles). On Borders Cottesmore, Quorn and Belvoir Hunts. Fine views, delightful grounds, south aspect, overlooking Melton Hunt Steeplechase Course. Modern, compact, Frechold. Containing four reception rooms, eleven bedrooms, four bathrooms, good domestic offices; garage for two, horse box garage, and flat; hunter stabling for twelve, two cottages and bungalow, paddocks, etc. NINE-AND-A-HALF ACRES.—Price and further particulars of the Sole Agents, SHOULER and SON, Estate Agents, Melton Mowbray.

FOR SALE OR TO LET (with immediate possession; within fifty miles of London and near to main line station).—Small attractive COUNTRY RESIDENCE, commanding extensive views over the surrounding country.—A. 148, c/o COUNTRY LIFE Offices, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

TOTTENHAM
COURT RD., W.I.
(EUSTON 7000)

MAPLE
& CO., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST.,
OLD BOND ST., W.I
(REGENT 4485-6)

OCCUPYING A REALLY LOVELY POSITION ADJOINING A GOLF COURSE, IN THE COUNTRY CLOSE TO
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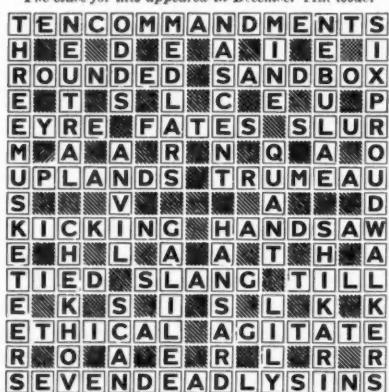
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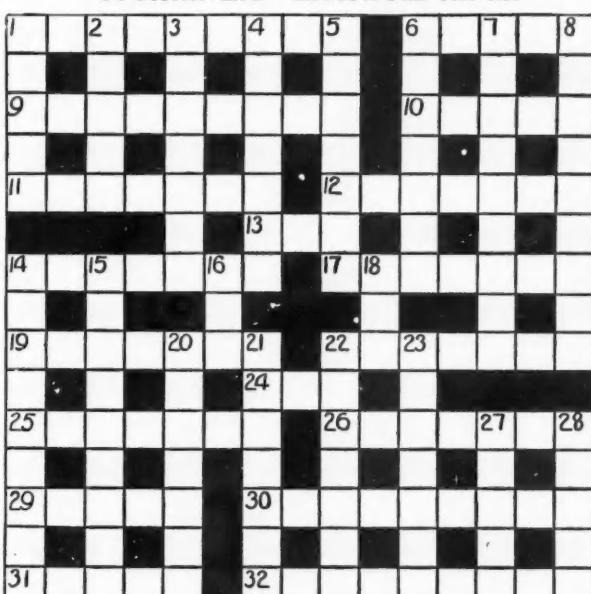
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SOLUTION to No. 411*The clues for this appeared in December 11th issue.***"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 412**

A prize of books to the value of 3 guineas, drawn from those published by COUNTRY LIFE, will be awarded for the first correct solution to this puzzle opened in this office. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 412, COUNTRY LIFE, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the **first post on the morning of Tuesday, December 21st, 1937.** Readers in Scotland are precluded under the Scottish Acts from participation in this competition.

The winner of
Crossword No. 411 is

J. Sturgis, Esq.,
Hamsey House,
Lewes, Sussex.

"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 412.

Name

Address

ACROSS.

- A penholder?
- Runs off with the nuts, perhaps
- Blake opposed experience to it
- Feline epithet
- You must do this to it to make the bud stir
- Was strong enough to make Ada evil
- 13 and 24. Have any been guided by the light in prayer?
- An old-fashioned request
- Matricide of Greek drama
- Carried by the next when small
- Does he become stunted by his work?
- See 13
- "A murder" (anagr.)
- What the judge does when the case comes up again
- He was chained to a wheel
- Lakeland valley
- He likes making a shindy
- It needs team drill to get in order and foot-slogging to make it work.

DOWN.

- What Paul did
- Where prizes are fought for
- Clumsy
- "I belong" (anagr.)
- Send to another place?
- An ugly old creature in spite of her name
- "Tell it to E" (anagr., two words, 6, 3)
- "No, but still —, still unchangeable" —Keats
- It's poorer to come in behind
- An appointment on which an appointment may depend
- 16 and 18. Loophole to permit a view?
- Bird home
- Gently flickering
- Both a gardening and a surgical instrument
- Announced her in after us
- A violin-maker whose name suggests a life of harmony
- To grow fatter is smart.

THE DUCK DANGER

THE quantity of wildfowl in Western Europe has been decreasing rapidly in recent years, and for some years an International Committee has been studying the problem. Many theories have been put forward to explain the diminution, but it is probably not due to any one specific cause but the operation of many causes. The classic wildfowling areas of the "literary period" of wildfowling are no longer desolate wastes and marshes. They are largely built-up areas, and the bungalow brays its broadcast where the bittern boomed. Then there have been natural siltings up and reclamations; and, above all, there is perpetual disturbance.

Our average of home-bred duck stays about even: if anything, there is a tendency to slight increase, but this does not affect us much when we come to wildfowling, as our supply of migrant duck comes from the general North European sources. It is simply a matter of luck whether they follow down the coast of England or the coast of Holland. The main breeding grounds are in the far north. These are little changed; but there are vicissitudes which affect the birds on their movement south. They are netted and decoyed, and it is a commercial business. In addition, close seasons are not rigorously observed, and cold-storage plants tell no tales.

THE RECLAMATION OF FEEDING GROUNDS

With the sad example of the United States before us it is necessary to take action before it is too late. Over there the ducks have been reduced to a fraction of their former quantity; but, although market shooters have been a contributory cause, the main cause has been the draining and reclamation of the feeding and breeding grounds. In England, too, we hear from time to time of schemes to "reclaim" estuaries or marshes and establish "golf courses" and "residential estates" on ground which has belonged for ages to some big corporation. There may be much profit in the scheme for the promoters—but none for the ducks, the nature-lover, or the sportsman; and it is doubtful if we can afford to sacrifice any area of marsh or mere.

Wildfowl being international rather than regional, any successful scheme for Western Europe bristles with difficulties. First, and most difficult of all, a base line has had to be determined. Are duck diminishing? If so, at what rate? That takes several years to establish; but, by ringing and recovery, by photographing skeins and estimating the birds shown on the print, a great deal of valuable knowledge is being brought into being. We are beginning to know now about the main lines of movement on migration, and are in a position to estimate approximate increase and decrease. With a body of facts one is in a strong position, where in the past much was stated merely on "opinion." With half a dozen nations of differing degrees of culture and civilisation to reconcile to a uniform international code of rules in regard to wildfowl preservation, fact is all important. It is to be hoped that the wildfowl section of the International Committee for Bird Preservation will be in a position to publish its first reports early next year.

From time to time correspondents write to me asking where they

"can be sure of some good wildfowling." It is a query which betrays the novice, for if there is anything uncertain it is wildfowling. Conditions are so variable that in a fortnight one might not get a dozen shots. January and February represent the best months, as a rule—but there again there is no rule. In general, the farther north you go the more likely you are to get sport. In a mild winter very few birds come south of the Thames, and, though sport of a kind can be had in the Medway estuary, there is seldom much on the coast unless hard weather sets in. The Hampshire mud flats beloved of Colonel Peter Hawker: the legendary fowl of Pagham and Chichester Harbour—these are to-day few and scarce, and also tolerably often shot at.

It is true that the punt gun has almost disappeared, and the few that are still in use are occasionally used by sportsmen rather than professional market shooters; but shore shooting has increased as the density of population of the coast has grown. In addition, there are aeroplanes and motor boats.

The toll of wildfowl taken by sportsmen is very, very small: a negligible factor as compared with the permanent effect of a Dutch decoy where the birds are trapped and garrotted; but the factor of disturbance is one we may have to consider. In Holland, punt guns are illegal—not because of their potential killing capacity, but simply because they disturb the birds destined for the "coys." It is a matter of commerce with the Dutch. Here there is no love lost between the "shore poppers" and the "cannoneers." Every good wildfowler dreams of a place where he is for ever out of earshot of some other fellow's gun.

PRACTICAL MEASURES

If an area is kept quiet, fowl increase; but there are very few areas in England where quiet can be assured. Holkham is one, and there are inland private broads; but in general private areas are few, and even Abbotsbury, where the swans breed, is now an R.A.F. range! It would seem that very little, if anything practical, can be done.

There are, however, other measures which need consideration. At present, every county council can make its own by-laws concerning the open and closed seasons for birds. In general, this delegated form of local self-government is not abused, but very often neglected. It would be far better to have uniformity concerning seasons and protection throughout the coastal counties, and put an end to the anomalies which exist. In adjoining counties the season may open a fortnight earlier, and in many counties it is impossible to know what birds are fully protected without writing to the Clerk of the County Council. The local police will certainly not be familiar with the schedule; but as I hear that some crank county has "protected" geese, the wildfowler of experience may be neatly trapped by a local by-law!

If anyone doubts that disturbance discourages fowl, let him reflect that during the War coastal shooting was forbidden, lest an invasion should be overlooked. Duck multiplied, but did we get the benefit of it? No, they flew up the wrong side of the North Sea and had their necks wrung by the neutral Dutch. God bless them!

H. B. C. P.



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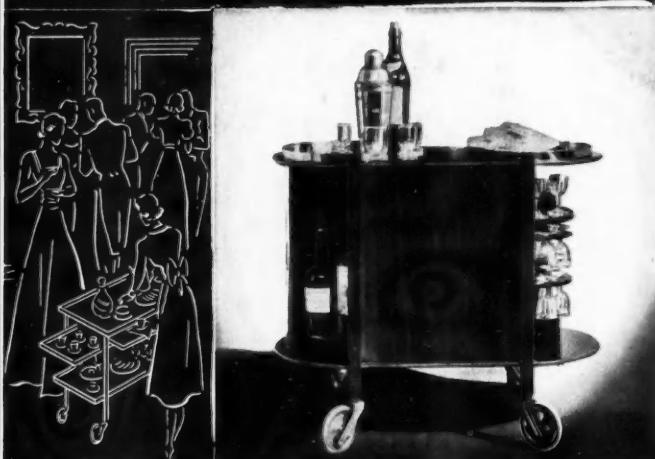
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CRUFT'S KENNEL NOTES

HERE is a dog to-day that will seem singular to many readers of this page, though it may be that within a few years he and his kind will be no novelty. Horsa of Leith Hill is a Boxer, owned by Mrs. H. M. Caro, Frith Manor, Mill Hill, a member of Cruft's Dog Show Society. He won a first prize in a class of ten at Mr. Cruft's show last February, and next February we shall probably have the opportunity of seeing more of them at the Royal Agricultural Hall, for their numbers are growing, and all who are sponsoring a new breed recognise the possibilities of propaganda afforded by these shows with their thousands of visitors. Horsa was bred by Mrs. Sprigge, who began to import the dogs three or four years ago.

Since then they have made substantial progress, and we understand that more than seventy have been registered at the Kennel Club. This number may not sound imposing, but those of us who have watched the development of foreign breeds, following them through the various stages from indifference to popularity, are convinced that it is very good for a start. Mrs. Caro has presented a cup to the British Boxer Club, which was formed a little time ago, and all the omens are favourable. Propaganda is not of much use, however, unless the object advertised is worthy of consideration. Those who have made the acquaintance of Boxers in the flesh, as we have, have succumbed to their appearance and character. In the first place, they are of medium size, the ideal height and weight being about 22½ ins. and 66lb. Perhaps they give one the impression of being larger, for they are solid and substantial, though active and alert. They are powerful enough and sufficiently determined to give anyone a thoroughly bad time who attempted to molest their master or mistress. In Germany they are used extensively as police dogs, from which we gather that they are sensible and easily taught.

Fortunately, they do not abuse their strength, those that we have met having been good-tempered and friendly; they only use it when necessary in defence of those they love. Naturally, people want to learn what they are like. It will be seen from the illustration that they have clean, well knit frames, and if comparison is desired with something that is more familiar, one would say that Horsa's head is somewhat reminiscent of that of the old-fashioned mastiff, before those dogs were given shorter faces with more wrinkle. The head is not heavy, but is in proportion to the size of the body. In other lands Boxers are cropped, so that their ears are carried erectly. That operation does undoubtedly smarten them; but it is not permitted in Great Britain, and the most difficult task confronting breeders is that of getting ears that will be in keeping. Of course, the ideal, if it could ever be attained, would be the erect

ears that are now seen on most bull-terriers. That breed, for years after the edict forbidding cropping came in, had ears that were unsightly. Now they go well with the head. About two centuries ago, as may be seen from pictorial representations, dogs called bull-baiters were kept on the Continent, they being presumably the British bulldogs of that period, which means that they were very dissimilar from the bulldog that is now seen. They had bodies more like those of the bull-terrier, and heads that were not heavy and exaggerated in brevity of foreface. When, about 1895, breeders around Munich produced Boxers, the new breed had been formed from crosses between the bull-baiters and several other breeds. As time went on the definite characters that are exhibited to-day assumed shape, and we have dogs that are blessed with



SENSIBLE AND POWERFUL
Mrs. H. M. Caro's Boxer, Horsa of Leith Hill

a definite type. The tails are docked to keep them short. In colour they are brindle or what the German standard terms fawn. Some correspond to our fawns, but the word is elastic, allowing brown or a reddish golden, which is greatly favoured. The skin is loose, and the coat is short and glossy. The back must be short, straight and muscular. Muscular strength is a conspicuous feature, nothing soft and sloppy being tolerated.

The Metropolitan and Essex last week brought an end to general championship shows until Cruft's in February next. Consequently, exhibitors will have a little leisure in which to prepare their dogs for the biggest event in the world. Beginners, who think they have a goodish dog, should give it an outing at Cruft's, where they will have the opportunity of learning its worth. The classification is so extensive that there are plenty of classes for dogs that have never won a prize or have done little winning. Herr F. Marquart, who is to judge smooth dachshunds, officiated last summer to everyone's satisfaction at the great Morris and Essex show in America. Mr. P. J. O'Callaghan, who is taking Irish setters, has not judged in England since Cruft's of 1936.

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MISS SUZANNE LYLE

Miss Suzanne Lyle, who is the younger daughter of Sir Leonard Lyle, Bt., and Lady Lyle, is engaged to Mr. Thomas Skyrme, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Skyrme. The engagement of her sister, Miss Nancy Lyle, the tennis player, to Captain Philip E. Glover, R.N., was announced this week.

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FARMERS AND THE GOVERNMENT

THE main bone of contention between farmers and Government during the past six months has been the White Paper on Milk Policy issued last July. When the National Farmers' Union indignantly rejected this policy without five minutes' consideration we ventured to hope that wiser and more constructive counsels might prevail. Fortunately, that has been the case; and for some time past conciliatory negotiations have been carried on between the farmers and the Ministry, which resulted in Mr. Morrison receiving a deputation on the subject last week. The Minister's reply was conciliatory throughout, and, though it must have been evident from the beginning of the proceedings that the Government were most unlikely to concede the demands of those who favour "straight tariffs," the deputation went away with the satisfaction of having obtained material concessions of a very substantial kind. The main proposal of the White Paper, it will be remembered, was to encourage the consumption of liquid milk by assisting "quality" production. This was to be done by offering a subsidy to high-quality milk, which would taper away over the next five years. The objection of the farmers was that the tapering was too steep, and they have now received a promise that the extent and application of the subsidy shall be reviewed from year to year. The Government's second proposal was to insure against a collapse in the prices of milk and milk products by promising a further subsidy for a fixed gallonage of manufacturing milk, payable if the price of imported butter and cheese were to fall for any considerable period below 100s. and 56s. respectively. This, the farmers said, was not enough; and the Minister has now promised that the subsidy will be payable on a gallonage greater than that actually used for home butter and cheese in 1936-37, and will begin when the price of imported butter falls below an average of 112s. in summer and of 126s. in winter, and when the price of imported cheese falls below 62s. 6d. in summer and 67s. 6d. in winter. These arrangements naturally provide a far more substantial security than the original proposals.

There are, of course, other matters of controversy—

including the establishment of a Milk Commission and compulsory pasteurisation—which will no doubt be fought out on the floor of the House. The Conservative Agricultural Committee in a recent memorandum disagreed with the suggestion in the White Paper regarding wholesale pasteurisation. There seems to be both fear of hardship to the small producer and doubt of the nutritive value of pasteurised milk. The Ministry's position is that the optional nature of the scheme provides all the protection the small producer needs, and that the suggestion that pasteurisation makes milk less nutritious is simply not true. During the Minister's meeting with the N.F.U., Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith took the opportunity to raise various other agricultural questions about which the Government ought to be busying themselves at the present time. Among these are the very important matters of statutory provision to enable the Agricultural Mortgage Corporation to cater more adequately for the credit requirements of the industry, and action to deal with the effect of death duties in creating a shortage in the capital required for the equipment of the land. We hope that the absence of any direct allusion to these subjects in the Minister's reply does not mean that they are quietly being shelved. They are absolutely fundamental to any long-term agricultural policy. Even the Government's present programme may be indefinitely held up if credit facilities are inadequate and landowners lack the resources to supply necessary equipment. The more enterprising farming policy becomes, the more damaging these two basic defects will prove.

THE MUDDLE OF THE ROADS

THE tragic railway disaster at Castle Cary, the worst for many years, killed thirty-five people, a death-roll that is equalled by any two days' on the roads. When the Select Committee of the House of Lords which is to consider the problem of road casualties begins its work, the point will emerge that as many, if not many more, people travel daily by road as by rail, with the difference that our road system was designed, so far as it has been designed, for slow-moving horse traffic, but has now to cope with gigantic numbers and speeds as great as a railway train's. There are two alternatives before the Committee: to regulate traffic to suit it to the roads—by restricting the numbers or capacities of cars, the output of a vast industry, and the liberties of all road-users; or to recommend that our roads be made as adequate to their traffic as are the roads of other modern countries (with a fraction of our number of motorists). To readers of *COUNTRY LIFE*, the idea of yet more huge roads, cutting up the already shattered countryside, will be repugnant. But which is preferable: a dozen new straight, safe roads between the main cities, avoiding all centres of population and kept clean of buildings; or the destruction of roadside beauty and of innumerable houses and villages—at double the cost, if not more—in a probably ineffective attempt to patch up our inconsequent old highways?

Meanwhile everybody has palliative nostrums. Even if they do not go so far as Lord Cecil, who would refuse a driving licence to persons under twenty-five (thereby making twenty-five to thirty the dangerous age of drivers), the Learner's badge might be extended as an M (for minors) to drivers under twenty-one. On every journey one meets drivers who, if one were a traffic policeman, one would serve with a summons for inconsiderate driving—but mobile constables with road sense never seem to be at hand. Most motorists should agree with Mr. Richard Strauss' suggestion of what he calls the star system for penalising road offenders. One or more stars are affixed by traffic police to the licence of a driver caught breaking the Highway Code: one star for careless parking, or hugging the crown of the road, up to three stars for such offences as cutting-in. When the car licence is renewed at the end of the year, the holder of a starless driving licence gets a progressive reduction in the amount of his tax while the starry ones pay one pound extra per star. In more serious cases, let us suggest, instead of the driver's licence being endorsed or suspended, that his car itself be impounded.

COUNTRY NOTES



THE DORSET HEATHS

IT is no wish of ours to be perpetually complaining of damage by the War Departments to the English scene. The world is arming, and to expect the countryside to maintain everywhere its air of ancient peace is to want a fool's paradise. The fighting Services must exercise somewhere, and obviously they must go to solitudes that peaceful folk cherish. But no lover of English landscape can suffer without protest the imminent building of a factory for the dismemberment of superannuated tanks in the middle of the heathland stretching from Wareham towards Dorchester. The site is, of course, near the Tank Corps headquarters at Bovington; but it is also in the centre of one of the most glorious views in England, that from the top of the Purbeck Hills which commands, from the lagoon of Poole Harbour on the east, round by the rolling downlands northward, to the golden arable country of the upper Piddle and Frome valleys on the west, a prospect that comprehends all the characteristic beauties of English landscape. At least the buildings could be sited in a hollow among the heaths, not, as at present, on a skyline, and be of a neutral colour instead of the glaring scarlet apparently intended. Military buildings need no more than military men to be conspicuous.

FOOT-AND-MOUTH POLICY

THE fact that after their trials and tribulations due to the present cattle plague, the Smithfield Club, at their annual meeting last week, should have passed a resolution congratulating the Government on the way they have tackled the disease, is in itself sufficient vindication of the Ministry's slaughter policy. If more were needed it might be found in the unanimity of the Central Chamber of Agriculture and the National Farmers' Union on the same subject. At the annual meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, also—after it had been announced that the King had signified his intention of becoming President of the Society for the centenary year, 1929, and that the centenary Show would be held in Windsor Great Park—a resolution was approved assuring the Government of their full support in the policy now in operation. After this the Ministry may fairly claim that they have the effective support of the farmers of England. At the same time, those who have been about the country in the past two months know that there has been a good deal of grumbling and misunderstanding, due partly to sentiment and partly to ignorance. To the layman it is difficult to understand why a "ruthless policy of slaughter" should be preferred to the milder methods of other nations. The answer to this and many other questions will be found in the "Foot-and-Mouth Disease Supplement" published in this issue of COUNTRY LIFE, which deals with the history of the disease, the results up to date of scientific research, the reasons for believing that the present epidemic has been carried from the Continent by birds, and explains exactly what the official policy is and why it has been adopted.

CONDEMNED COTTAGES

THE main object of our recent housing legislation has been to abolish slums and get rid of overcrowding, and the Government, in its praiseworthy efforts to achieve its purpose, inserted in the 1936 Housing Act a clause making any demolition order final once it had been issued by the

local authority. Intended to prevent evasion of housing responsibilities under the Act, this clause has operated harshly in country districts, and has frequently led to the demolition of old cottages which, given time and opportunity, might have been saved and put into repair. Mr. J. W. Robertson Scott, the editor of *The Countryman*, has made a timely plea for an amendment of this section of the Act that would give local authorities power, under certain conditions, to withdraw a demolition order. He points out that circumstances may arise whereby the owner of a condemned building is found to be able or willing to repair it after a demolition order has been made; or some public-spirited person may come forward to buy the cottage with the object of saving it. An amendment of the Act on the lines suggested would be the means of preserving many charming examples of country architecture otherwise doomed to disappear. Meanwhile, if, as we have suggested before, condemned cottages were advertised by their owners or local authorities before the demolition order took effect, the opportunity would be given to those anxious to possess week-end cottages to buy and repair them for their own use.

HINC ILLÆ LINEÆ

*From Christmas Day to Christmas Day
The months pursue their rapid way :*

JANUARY hugs the fire
Or hunts the fox from shire to shire;
FEBRUARY fills the fen
And freezes it for skating-men;
MARCH, with boist'rous squall and gust,
Scatters the Winter into dust;
And APRIL, smiling through her tears
As flower by flower the Spring appears,
Hands on to MAY a world new-born
To deck with lilac, pear, and thorn.

Roses of JUNE, and long warm days
Beguile us into pleasant ways;
JULY her lavish beauty flaunts,
Full-blown, through all our favoured haunts;
And, if Saint Swithin has been dry,
A glowing AUGUST passes by:
SEPTEMBER's shorter days of gold
Whisper "The year is growing old";
OCTOBER struggles, bronzed and brave,
With good Saint Luke the rout to save,
But chill NOVEMBER's fog and rain
Usher the Winter in again.

Back once more in cold DECEMBER
Christmas calls us to remember
The Brotherhood of Christmas Day,
Whereby great happiness we pray
For you, and all you hold most dear,
Through Christmas and the coming year.

HENRY COOPER.

TWO HOUSES FOR THE NATION

UNDER the new powers which the National Trust acquired through its Bill, passed last session, it is now possible for an owner to present to the Trust a country house, together with its contents and gardens, and make over an endowment fund for its upkeep, while, in return, the owner and his family can remain in occupation as the Trust's tenants, neither the owner nor the Trust having to pay income tax or estate duties on the property. An instance of the scheme in operation has been given by Sir Herbert Baker's recent gift to the Trust of his charming little seventeenth-century house at Cobham in Kent. Owletts, which has belonged to his family for a century and a half, is a typical example of a Late Stuart country house of the smaller kind, and it preserves a fine staircase and enriched ceiling bearing the date 1684. With the house Sir Herbert has presented twenty-four acres of gardens and orchards, together with a maintenance fund for its upkeep. The Trust has also received from Mr. Geoffrey Mander the gift of Wightwick Manor, near Wolverhampton, a house that is notable for its decoration done under the influence of the Pre-Raphaelite School. We understand that negotiations are on foot as a result of which other country houses are likely to be transferred to the Trust on similar terms. Arrangements are made for houses acquired in this way to be accessible to the public on certain days in the year.

MR. PERCIVAL GRIFFITHS

THE death of Mr. Percival Griffiths in the hunting field deprives many of a warm friend, and connoisseurs of one of the leading collectors of English furniture. Mr. Griffiths' preference lay in the age of walnut, as his friend Percy Macquoid called the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries; and during a lifetime of collecting he assembled at Sandridgebury an array of pieces as impressive for their quality as for their numbers. There is practically nothing in the house, which, though enlarged, is primarily of William and Mary date, which does not belong to that golden age of English craftsmanship. His interests included, besides the furniture, the other domestic arts of the time, particularly needlework and stumpwork, so that a visit to his hospitable home was a liberal education to fellow connoisseurs. Indeed, one of the winter exhibitions of the Burlington Fine Arts Club a few years ago was furnished entirely, by his generosity, from Sandridgebury. Many of the choicest walnut pieces in the "Dictionary of English Furniture" are from his collection.

RACING CHEETAHS

ALL things are relative. The greatest of Olympic runners would cut a very poor figure beside a greyhound, and now the cheetah has come here to show the greyhound, in the modern phrase, "where he gets off." The racing cheetahs made their débüt on Saturday, when one Helen left two dogs labouring far behind her and covered 265yds. in 15.86secs., compared with the dog record of 16.01secs. It must not be inferred on this account that cheetahs are going to put greyhounds' noses permanently out of joint. Mr. Gandar Dower, in his interesting article on the subject in *The Times*, emphasised the fact that there was no desire to achieve anything of the kind, and that, even if there were, there could never be enough racing cheetahs. Moreover, the cheetah seems to have some qualities that do not fit him for racing; he loses interest if his quarry be too far ahead of him or if his competitor gains a long lead. On Saturday there was a race between Gussie and James, and as soon as Gussie got ahead James "packed up" and refused to finish the course. Possibly he was sulky at being beaten by a lady. So cheetah racing can be no more than a spectacle, an exhibition of supreme grace and speed by the fastest of all four-footed creatures in the world.

A GREAT OAR

ROWING men throughout the world will have learnt with regret of Mr. Arthur Middleton Hutchinson's death within a few weeks of his seventy-eighth birthday. Between 1879, when he went up to Jesus College, Cambridge, and 1906, when they won their last race together at Durham Regatta, he and Mr. "Steve" Fairbairn rowed together in more than one hundred races, during which, in eights and fours, they were beaten only five times. His first appearance at Henley Regatta was in 1880. In 1929—for, with practice crews there, he continued to row until he was seventy—he marked the fiftieth year from that by rowing over the "new" course, which he had seen established in 1886. At Cambridge "Hutch" was in the University eight in 1881 and 1882. In 1881 he was secretary of the C.U.B.C. For Jesus College, then at the height of its renown, he rowed in the eight, consistently head of the river, in 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, and 1885. Tradition says that the rules were then changed to stop him from going on for ever! Other winning crews in which he rowed were in the Henley Grand of 1885, 1888 and 1889; and the Henley Stewards' Plate of 1886 and 1889. Among his best races was that for the Goblets in 1887, when Fairbairn and he—both having rowed already in the eights and the fours—were beaten by Muttlebury and Barclay.

THE INGENIOUS SNATCHER

AN interesting case in which the niceties of what constitutes legal fishing was involved came before the magistrates at Shap (Westmorland) the other day. A local man was charged with "unlawfully using a snatch or other like instrument" for the purpose of taking salmon in the River Lune at Old Tebay. The man was seen by a bailiff apparently fishing with rod and line. He landed a salmon, and the bailiff, who had been watching him

through glasses, then came forward to investigate. He found that the fish had been foul-hooked. Attached to the end of the line was a brass minnow with a large three-pronged hook at the end, but the spinner was not of the ordinary kind and had not been used for spinning. A piece of snare wire had been soldered to the spinner to prevent the latter slipping up the line, and the tackle had no swivels to prevent it from kinking the line if legitimate spinning were being practised. The question was argued whether or not the tackle was actually a snatch within the meaning of the Act. For the defence it was contended that it was, and in evidence the bailiff admitted that the spinner would have spun slowly if an attempt had been made to spin it, but declared that the defendant was simply snatching or foul-hooking the fish. In that event the tackle was illegal. The defendant admitted that he foul-hooked the salmon, but declared that it was accidental and that he was genuinely spinning. The Bench decided to convict, and the offender was fined £5 and costs, the tackle being confiscated.

WEST GALE

I am a murmur of wildness coming,
A waiting, a whisper, a crescent humming;
The snow-winged gull is in on the plough,
The forest sighs from bough to bough
And shivers her naked trees:
Far out, on saddening seas
Shrill noises vex the shrouds,
Uneasy winter clouds
Lay their dark heads together,
And bleak horizons presage a fierce weather.

Bend, bend your high indomitable heads
You sovereign trees,
For now my empire spreads,
And faster in their courses
Among the roar of foam-resplendent seas
I lash my furious horses:
No Cæsar knew, nor Cyrus in his hour
So absolute a power,
I hold in my fierce breath
Supreme delivery of life or death.

P. H.

TOO FEW COOKS

RECRUITING for the Royal Navy appears to be extremely satisfactory except in one important particular. The Admiralty deplore a shortage of cooks. To all lovers of "Treasure Island" who read this sad news John Silver must instantly spring to mind. Indeed, that immortal work was originally named "The Sea Cook." Perhaps it is as well that there are not too many cooks like him; but everyone will sympathise with the Admiralty in their lack of less remarkable ones. This sympathy will be the more genuine because the Navy are not the only sufferers. The housewives of England cry aloud for cooks and will yield to the most truculent mistress in her own kitchen if only they can obtain her services. They will send the car to take her to the pictures, and will generally abase themselves before her. It is, therefore, perhaps hardly the moment to suggest that His Majesty's ships should carry lady cooks. Yet that is the course which good Captain Reece, Commander of *The Mantlepiece*, would certainly have adopted. His widowed aunt and his niece would have attended them as they were bid. It was their duty and they did.

NORFOLK HOUSE

NEXT week's COUNTRY LIFE will contain a fully illustrated description of Norfolk House, St. James's Square, to be dismantled and demolished early in the New Year. One of the last of the great private houses of Georgian London, Norfolk House has never, hitherto, been photographed, nor its history critically examined. The riddle of how George III came to be born in a house not then built has been solved, and the very fine painted ceiling of the room where that event traditionally took place will be illustrated. The internal decoration of the house, of which Matthew Brettingham was the architect 1748-52, is exceptionally rich, and the alterations executed a century later were peculiarly sympathetic. Those who want a keepsake of Norfolk House will do well to order COUNTRY LIFE in advance next week, for the Christmas rush is nearly here.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

OUTBREAKS PAST & PRESENT

SEARCH FOR A REMEDY

SPECIAL SURVEY BY "COUNTRY LIFE"

The present widespread outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease demands serious public attention. The following articles, in dealing with the disease and its related problems, discuss the points of view of the scientist, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the farmer.

I.—SCIENCE AND THE VIRUS

THE basis of our attack upon foot-and-mouth disease, as upon all other human and animal disorders, is the increase of scientific knowledge which can only be obtained by continuous experiment. The more information we can obtain, the more surely can administrative action be taken upon it. When the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Research Committee was appointed in 1924, it was known that the disease was highly infectious and was caused by the action of a "filterable" virus; but no sufficient foundation of scientific knowledge existed for administrative measures calculated to alleviate the heavy losses, not only to the State but to farming interests generally, arising from the slaughter policy, or any other known method of dealing with the disease. Little, for instance, was known of the length of time which the virus could survive under various conditions; of the existence and relative importance of methods of spread other than directly from one infected animal to another; of the possible occurrence of the disease in wild rodents or other small animals; or of the possibility of inducing an effective immunity.

These are all fundamental questions, and give some idea of the main lines of research to which the Committee addressed themselves and which they are now carrying out in their laboratories and on their field station at Pirbright. Such fundamental research has, however, led to investigations of a more directly practical nature. The question of disinfection was obviously important; and the Committee have discovered a great deal with regard to the efficiency of various classes of disinfectant under various conditions. A further practical line of investigation was the testing of drugs of various descriptions in respect of which curative claims were made. Unfortunately, all such tests have had negative or insignificant results. A further direction of useful work has been in relation to the properties or value of serum and of certain experimental vaccines. This has led to critical investigations in regard to the possibility of securing a vaccine or serum which might be effective in inducing immunity from one or more of the types of virus met with in Great Britain or existing elsewhere and liable to be introduced into this country. Incidentally, one must point out the vast complication which has been introduced into the work of research by the discovery that we are dealing not with one virus but with many. All these "types" give rise to foot-and-mouth disease and the symptoms are similar; but that the types are distinct in their pathological effect is shown by

the fact that immunity from one type of virus can be broken down by another type—a fact which obviously complicates the question of possible control by vaccine or serum enormously. It is clearly no use securing immunity against Type A virus if the next outbreak of the disease is going to be due to Type B virus. There is, however, one cheering side to these researches into immunity. They have shown that the resistance induced by an attack of the disease itself is a very solid one and far more durable than was formerly believed. This fact encourages the hope that an effective method of artificial immunisation may not be out of reach. This does not mean that the Committee can encourage the view that research may ultimately result in the existing policy of slaughter being replaced by one of vaccination; other factors must be taken into consideration, and, after all the research they have done, the Committee still think it likely that, under the conditions prevailing in this country, a slaughter policy may always be necessary to keep in hand so highly infectious a disease. On the other hand, an effective method of vaccination would be indirectly of great use. It could be employed to advantage in those countries where the disease is endemic and from which animal products are exported to the United Kingdom.

Having glanced at these broader aspects of research, let us turn to some of the more recent developments described in this year's Report of the Research Committee. One of the most interesting of them is the discovery of the great susceptibility of the hedgehog to the disease. The discovery has provided the Committee with an experimental animal which may prove of great value: and one in which disease is conveyed by contact between one animal and another, in the same way as with ordinary farm stock. An interesting observation in experimental work both at Pirbright and elsewhere is that large and well nourished animals show more severe signs of foot-and-mouth disease than small and ill-nourished individuals. This observation has been recorded before with regard to guinea-pigs and swine, and the work at Pirbright with cattle, rats and hedgehogs has now confirmed it.

The size of the particles of the virus itself may not be without interest to the layman. Since the discovery in 1898 that the virus of the disease would pass through porcelain filters, it has been customary for workers with this disease to use filtration to separate the virus from ordinary bacteria. Recently a series of collodion membranes has been prepared with very uniform but extremely minute pores, of which the average size can be estimated and,

consequently, the diameter of the particles capable of passing deduced with considerable precision. It has been shown that the particles of the virus of foot-and-mouth are smaller than those of any other known virus except those of human poliomyelitis. The diameter is estimated to be about from eight to eighteen millionths of a millimetre, or about one to two hundredths of the diameter of a small bacterium. Finally, as it is suggested that the present outbreaks are due to the carrying of the virus by migrant birds, one may glance at the Committee's work in this direction. They state in their last Report that "it is impossible to deny that transport of virus may occasionally happen in this way. The virus might be carried on contaminated feathers or feet or the birds might sometimes themselves be infected." There is little direct evidence that birds are in fact a means of transmission of the virus. All the same, a series of attempts to infect birds experimentally have been made, which, while they "afford additional evidence that some degree of susceptibility is very widespread in the animal kingdom, give no very striking support to the hypothesis of the spread of the disease by birds."

II.—THE POLICY OF SLAUGHTER

THE slaughter policy adopted and enforced by the Ministry of Agriculture may be defined as follows: It is to slaughter immediately on confirmation of the existence of the disease, all affected animals (cattle, sheep, swine, or goats), and also those which are or have been recently in contact with the affected animals or otherwise directly exposed to infection. The object of such slaughter is to destroy as quickly as possible the manufacturers and potential manufacturers of the foot-and-mouth disease virus, which is so easily and rapidly spread from animal to animal and carried by numerous agencies to the stock of other farms. The slaughter of the stock on an infected place is normally completed within twenty-four hours of the report of the case being received by the Ministry of Agriculture.

This policy is obviously drastic; and there are many countries, especially on the opposite shores of Europe, where it is not pursued and where the disease has been allowed to become endemic, as it was in England in the earlier part of last century. Foot-and-mouth disease first appeared in England in 1839, and from that date until 1892 the country suffered from considerable periods of severe infection. In 1862 it broke out in the Royal Agricultural Society's show yard at Battersea, and in 1863 animals were attacked at the Smithfield Show. In 1871, 52,000 outbreaks were officially reported, and in this visitation, which lasted into the following year, the number of animals attacked was estimated at about three millions. From 1880 to 1884, 27,445 outbreaks with some 800,000 animals affected, are recorded. The disease was first made notifiable by the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act of 1869, but the powers conferred thereby upon local authorities were permissive and not obligatory, and for some years stock owners



ONE METHOD OF PROTECTING THE FEET OF CATTLE

were opposed to any compulsory measures for the suppression of the disease. Agricultural opinion gradually grew, however, in favour of drastic measures on the lines of those adopted against rinderpest (or cattle plague), which was finally eradicated in 1877. It was not until 1892, however, that the power to adopt a slaughter policy was conferred on the Ministry of Agriculture. This power has since been consistently exercised, and from 1892 till 1922 the number of outbreaks did not exceed ninety-five in any one year. The year 1922 and the two years following, however, witnessed a severe test of the slaughter policy as a means of preventing the disease from again becoming endemic; but success was eventually achieved. The outbreaks and number of counties affected since 1922 have been as follows:

OUTBREAKS OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE, 1922-37.

Years.	Counties affected.	Number of Outbreaks.
1922	46	1,140
1923	43	1,929
1924	52	1,440
1925	26	260
1926	31	204
1927	23	143
1928	21	138
1929	15	38
1930	3	8
1931	19	97
1932	11	25
1933	23	87
1934	15	79
1935	12	56
1936	14	67
1937 (to Dec. 9th)	21	117

Regarded in the perspective of past history, the extent of the present outbreak, although serious in view of the extreme infectivity of the disease, is not comparable with those which occurred between 1922 and 1926.

These figures one might think abundantly sufficient to justify the slaughter policy which has been adopted in this and other countries where the disease is now only intermittent; but there is another, even more cogent, argument. Although, as is pointed out in another article in these pages, an animal which has survived an attack of the disease acquires a high degree of resistance to the virus which produced the attack, there are many types of virus, and the immunity acquired against one type of virus does not extend to the others. Consequently, to let an epidemic run through the country unchecked would give no guarantee that the same animals would not fall victims to the next outbreak caused by another type of virus.

There are, of course, many other measures taken by the Ministry to supplement the drastic slaughterings. Immediately an outbreak is notified, preliminary disinfection is proceeded with and a thorough disinfection of the whole premises is carried out directly after slaughter has been completed. Infected premises are meantime subject to special rules designed to prevent the risk of the spread of infection. These are maintained



EVEN THE HORSE'S HOOF'S ARE SUSPECT

for a period of about ten weeks from the date of slaughter.

Concurrently with this procedure, an infected area is declared by an Order of the Ministry embracing a radius of fifteen miles around the infected premises. No movement of animals out of this area is permitted, and movements of animals into and within the area are controlled by licence, only necessary movements being allowed. Markets within the area are limited to fat stock, and are permitted by licence and subject to veterinary inspection, but only on premises more than five miles from any infected place. All dogs within five miles of any infected premises have to be kept under control, and hunting in the area is prohibited.

In the case of more widely spread outbreaks such as the present, the above restrictions are supplemented by a temporary "Standstill" Order controlling the movement of animals in an area surrounding the actual infected areas as an additional precaution with the object of limiting the spread of infection. Such an Order was imposed on November 9th. In view of the general improvement in the position it was withdrawn on December 9th.

The matter of greatest importance is, of course, the immediate notification of suspected cases of the disease. In the initial stages, which are the most infective, the animals are dull, off their food, and their temperature is higher than normal. The first symptoms to attract attention are the sudden appearance of lameness, or slavering at the mouth, in cattle. Lameness in a number of animals, especially if present in more than one species, should arouse the gravest suspicion, and owners and persons in charge are bound by law to report their suspicions at once to the nearest police station.

III.—THE PRESENT OUTBREAK

By whatever means it may have been conveyed, there can be no doubt that the present infection has been brought to this country from the Continent, where one of the most virulent "types" of foot-and-mouth disease has been spreading, with snowball rapidity, throughout the autumn. The progress of the disease through north-western Europe is shown by the following figures :

NUMBERS OF OUTBREAKS IN 1937.

Country	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
France	..	3	30	789	2,451	9,327	21,970	32,908
								(to 15th)
Germany	..	—	—	2	7	7	264	3,295
Belgium	..	—	—	—	10	319	4,090	14,098
Holland	..	—	—	—	2	394	11,444	—
								(Figures for Holland not available after October 15th.)

The facts about the present epidemic are these :

The first infections were reported on October 16th at two widely separated farms in Norfolk.

Almost immediately afterwards other cases were reported at points in the eastern counties. The infected premises were widely distributed, and there was no apparent connection between them. A direct link which might be responsible for handing on the disease has been found only between two centres.

At the height of the outbreak there were six centres in Kent, three in Essex, two in Lincolnshire, seven in Huntingdonshire, three in East Sussex, and one in West Sussex : all to the east of the stand-still line drawn by the Ministry of Agriculture from the Humber to the south coast. Since then other cases have been reported in Cheshire, Bucks, Dorset, Northumberland and Wiltshire to the west or north of the stand-still line.

The distribution of unrelated outbreaks gives support to the theory that the infection must have been carried across the North Sea by migrant birds. A map on page 625 shows the area of this country passed over by birds migrating south and



SAFETY FIRST: A FARM WORKER DISINFECTION HIS BOOTS

westwards from the eastern shores of the Continent. Reports from the originally infected areas state that millions of starlings, which were evidently migrating, had recently made their appearance, and in many cases it was noticed that they were visibly exhausted by their journey across the sea. A comparison of the bird-migration map with the other which shows the centres of infection notified and the "infected areas" surrounding them will do much to substantiate the theory that the infection in this case, at any rate, has been carried by birds.

If this theory be correct, the end of the autumn migration from Europe should see the end of all "sporadic" outbreaks of disease and the "stamp-ing-out" measures of the Ministry should soon put an end to contact infections from those which may already exist.

IV.—WHAT IT MEANS TO THE FARMER

By H. G. ROBINSON, Principal of the Midland Agricultural College

THE concern which the appearance of foot-and-mouth disease causes to the farmer can readily be understood.

Apart from his material concern for his own cattle, the imposition of "Stand-still Orders" for cloven-hoofed livestock and the other restrictions which he knows must come, are bound to throw his farm into confusion and cause him the maximum of inconvenience. More than all, he fears the moment when one of his men, sweating with apprehension, will ask him to have a look at some particular cow or tell him that "they pigs is trembling at the knees." An outbreak on his own farm will, he knows, involve the slaughter and burning both of infected animals and of contacts, and, although compensation is awarded by the Government that covers the value of livestock at the time of the slaughter, it does not meet those other losses resulting from the cessation of livestock farming until the premises are re-stocked. It is these consequential losses which weigh harshly on those who have the misfortune to get the disease on their holdings. In some cases the fruits of a lifetime's work have gone up in smoke when valuable pedigree herds and flocks have had to be slaughtered. This is by no means a rare experience, and it is one which cannot be guarded against. No amount of "compensation" can replace the years spent in careful and skilful breeding, a fact which can best be realised by those who have a deep interest in the breeding of pedigree stock. To a farmer who has made the building up



A CENTRE OF RESEARCH: THE FIELD STATION AT PIRBRIGHT

of his herds the business of his life, the arrival of "foot-and-mouth" spells the doom of all his hopes. No wonder he should shed salt tears and find it hard to keep a stiff upper lip. It is when such a situation faces a farmer that he begins to doubt the wisdom of the slaughter policy. Since the Great War there have been notable cases where an isolation and curative policy has been tried in dealing with valuable herds. Unfortunately, it has not been successful. The consensus of opinion among those who have tried this method is that the slaughter policy is the safest and most economical in the end, even when viewed solely from the owner's standpoint.

However much the individual farmer might wish it otherwise, those who have experience of the disease are convinced that the present measures adopted for the control of outbreaks, as they appear, are in the best interests of agriculture as a whole. There are, of course, a good many farmers who will talk of their fathers' practice of using a little Stockholm tar, or, being knowledgeable, talk about the tar dips used in some of the States. But those whose business and financial memories actually go back to the days when the disease was endemic and widespread in these islands are better satisfied with present practice.

Actually the mortality from foot-and-mouth disease is not

gaining a foothold in this country, it is almost essential to have no contact with animal materials from countries in which the disease is widespread. The most risky of the probabilities have been subjected to control already, by such measures as the embargo on the importation of live animals and of pork carcasses. To what extent the disease can be imported in foodstuffs has never been revealed, but one is often inclined to wonder whether there is not a risk in using some of the rye and flour products that are imported from countries where the disease exists.

It is often conjectured that the disease is borne from abroad by migrant birds, or even by the air itself; but, whether this is true or not, the farmer can do nothing to interfere or to protect himself. On the other hand, farmers are very suspicious of the damage which might result from motor cars returning to this country from the Continent. If it is logical for vehicles taking stock to a market to be disinfected before they leave, it would not seem to be unreasonable to insist upon vehicles returning from the Continent to be subjected to disinfection, so far as the tyres and mudguards are concerned. The cost of the disease to this country is already high enough to justify the adoption of possible safety measures. The scientific and administrative struggle against foot-and-mouth disease is one of which the farmer



PREPARING TO BURN THE BODIES OF CATTLE SHORTLY TO BE SLAUGHTERED

the most serious aspect of the disease. But in a country like the United Kingdom, where dairy farming contributes such an important part of the farming income, the damage of the disease to milking herds, if it were investigated, would be found to have serious consequences. Affected animals dry off very quickly and give a much reduced yield, abortions are common, while udder and persistent foot troubles also have serious effects on the market value of cattle which have recovered from the disease. In the case of feeding cattle there is considerable wastage through the emaciation produced by the disease, and similar remarks apply to sheep and pigs. If, therefore, foot-and-mouth disease were allowed to spread without control measures being enforced, it can be readily understood how serious the ravages would be in a densely stocked country like ours, and farmers realise that it would fall upon the farming community to bear the whole cost of the disease.

Among many farmers, on the other hand, there is a feeling that stricter measures could be taken to limit still further the possibility of the disease reaching these shores. That there are unusual sources of infection has been suspected for long among thoughtful people. Thus, among materials which are suspect are imported hay, straw, and vegetables; milk products; hides, carcasses and animal offal, as well as humans visiting this country from abroad. The research workers have done much to examine the conditions under which the virus can survive, and this work has substantiated the suspicions of those who endeavour to explain the appearance of the disease. Thus a serious outbreak in 1926 was traced to the existence of the disease in the carcasses of foreign pigs imported from Holland and Belgium for bacon curing at a Scottish factory. One can appreciate the fact from this and other incidents that, to be absolutely certain of preventing the disease

is an onlooker, hoping all the time that the precautionary measures which other people take will be effective in preventing the appearance of the disease or of controlling it when it does appear. The farmer's chief obligation is that he should be able to recognise the disease immediately it appears and should report the fact to the authorities. To attempt to conceal its existence in the hope of curing it before others know of it would be an act of madness, for, in view of the rapidity with which the disease spreads, incalculable harm would be caused throughout a district. This is a case where the ready co-operation of the agricultural community is essential, and, fortunately, recent experience has shown that is usually given.

There is one further matter which many a stock farmer is considering to-day, especially if he depends upon breeding stock for his livelihood, and that is the question of insurance against consequential losses. I have come to the conclusion that this is worth doing, and period insurances can be undertaken for this, and the premiums are not prohibitive.

V.—A GENERAL SUMMING-UP

By PROFESSOR SIR FREDERICK HOBDAY, C.M.G., F.R.C.V.S., F.R.S.E., Late Principal and Dean of the Royal Veterinary College.

THE annual loss to farmers in this country resulting from animal diseases has been estimated at about £14 million, according to a statement recently made by Mr. W. S. Morrison, the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries; while a very considerable sum is spent by the Ministry itself in dealing with foot-and-mouth disease. The policy adopted by Great Britain on the advice of its veterinary advisers is

undoubtedly the best and most economic method devised for the effective control of the disease, a fact most abundantly proved by the perusal of reports showing the extent of damage caused by its ravages in other countries.

How great is the damage and how fortunate this country is by comparison is evident from the attached table, showing graphically the number of outbreaks reported in a fair average year in various countries of Europe which are subjected to the ravages of the disease.

Month	Gt. Britain	France	Germany	Holland	Belgium
January	..	1	1,074	113	579
February	..	—	652	80	214
March	..	—	613	73	105
April	..	—	287	110	59
May	..	1	135	48	51
June	..	—	146	56	132
July	..	—	98	27	459
August	..	3	92	40	1,391
September	..	4	21	19	3,120
October	..	24	15	14	2,880
November	..	28	3	16	48
December	..	18	28	32	230

At the present time a good deal of anxiety is manifest on account of the recent severe outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease which have arisen in the eastern and southern counties and elsewhere, while at the same time Germany is suffering from a much more widespread outbreak, which, according to reports from that country, is of such a gravity that it is likely to interfere with the food supply of the population.

In dealing with contagious diseases of this character, we



THE DRASTIC PURGE OF FIRE; A HOLOCAUST OF SLAUGHTERED BEASTS

must not forget two very important points which the general public (with its well known love for animals) appear not to have taken into account. The first of these is whether the methods used afford "the greatest good for the greatest number"; and the second—which is of the greatest importance to the agricultural community—is the economic aspect. Considering the question from these two points of view alone, the treatment of a foot-and-mouth outbreak—or, indeed, any animal epidemic—can

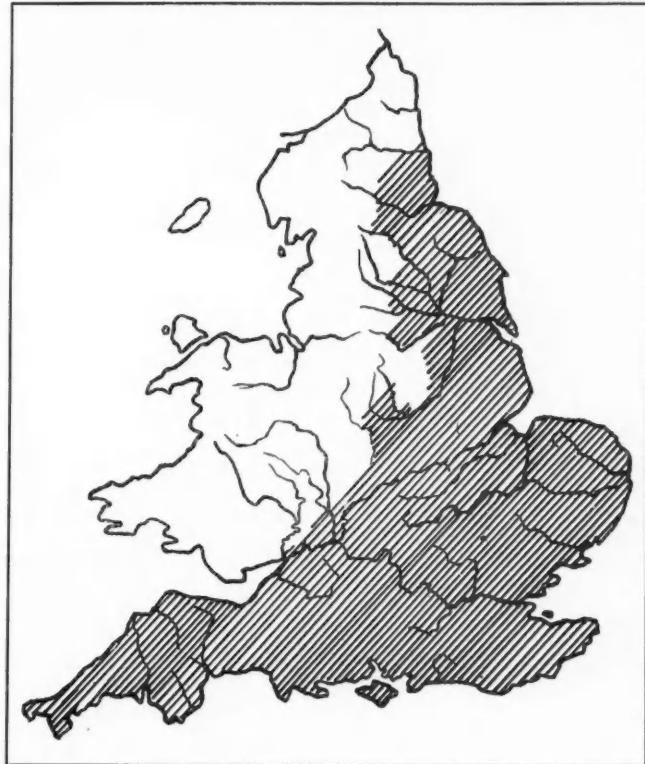
always be examined and brought to a satisfactory decision.

Let us, for a moment, review the methods of dealing with outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease, recollecting the very important point that we live on an island, divided at its narrowest part by twenty-four miles of water from its nearest neighbour in Europe. Over that barrier no animal can gain access to Great Britain without passing through a very comprehensive system of port control—a rigid inspection by Government veterinary officials, and compulsory quarantine where ordered—before it can be admitted into this country.

Two terrible diseases—glanders in the horse and rabies in the dog—each of them communicable to man, provide instances of what can be achieved by the "stamping-out" methods employed by a country whose ports of entry exercise proper veterinary control. Each of these has disappeared in Great Britain—so much so that to the present generation even their names convey scarcely anything. Glanders was finally eradicated seven or eight years ago from horses, and the disease, except through animals of equine origin, cannot possibly be communicated to man; while rabies (or dog madness) was stamped out of England when the late Lord



PART OF ENGLAND WITH AREAS IN WHICH THERE HAVE BEEN OUTBREAKS OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE ROUGHLY INDICATED. This map should be studied with that in the adjoining column illustrating bird migration



BIRDS ARE POSSIBLE CARRIERS OF INFECTION. MAP SHOWING AUTUMN MIGRATION OF BIRDS (SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER). The shading indicates roughly the area affected by "East and West" migration at this season

Long, then Mr. Walter Long, was Minister for Agriculture over thirty years ago.

Foot-and-mouth disease belongs to the ultra-visible virus group, of which the actual origin is so elusive that the highest powered microscope is unable to detect it, and we know it is there only as the result of most patient research. It is, indeed, so elusive that it will pass through the finest mesh we utilise for the collection of bacilli—the Pasteur Chamberland filter. We know, too, from experimental observation that a piece of infected meat can contain the living organism for twenty-eight days, and that in the marrow of bones it will remain virulent for considerably longer than a hundred and twenty-eight days. It was for this reason that a law was passed by which all contents of swill pails collected from restaurants throughout the country must be boiled for an hour before being utilised as food for pigs. It may be mentioned here that the pig is, if possible, more susceptible to foot-and-mouth disease than the cow.

The method which is adopted in this country for the prevention of the spread of foot-and-mouth disease, under the advice of the veterinary officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, may be shortly summarised as follows. Immediately an outbreak is notified the farm or other infected area is quarantined and around it is placed a cordon of some fifteen miles. Hunting is stopped, and all movements of stock which involve risk of infection within that cordon is forbidden. This naturally includes a ban on cattle markets, sales, and the passage over the barrier of all cloven-footed animals (for the disease is not communicable to horses) and over all roads. Cloven-footed animals on the farm or infected place are then valued by accredited Government officials, painlessly destroyed by the humane killer, and the bodies completely incinerated. The other animals—horses, dogs, and so on—are not allowed to roam about indiscriminately. The men and women on the infected area are placed under strict disinfection measures and are under the eyes of the veterinary inspectors and police. If no further outbreaks occur, then (according to the exigencies of the circumstances), under advice from the

Government veterinary officials, the cordon may be reduced after fourteen days to five miles, and a week later to the infected premises alone. The owner of the infected stock receives a fair and just compensation for each animal killed, and at the end of a period which under regulations may vary from six weeks to three months, is permitted to re-stock his farm. In this way the spread of the outbreak is effectively controlled.

It may be asked why it is necessary, or even advisable, to slaughter the healthy as well as the diseased animals by this, as it is called, " stamping-out method." The answer is twofold; but before going into the point one may say that the actual cure of foot-and-mouth disease is, in all but young cattle, piglets and lambs, a comparatively simple matter. Except in the young animals, death from the disease is the exception, not the rule. But one must remember that it is uneconomic to spend £15 if the cow is only worth £10 when cured, and although a cow with foot-and-mouth disease will rarely die as the result of the illness, the pain which is produced in its mouth and feet is so acute that it will often waste almost to a skeleton. It will take a long time and cost a lot to recover condition, while the return of milk in the case of a dairy cow is never the same after the illness—in fact, it is estimated that the average loss in the value of dairy cows is £2 10s. per head.

The second consideration—and this is of very great importance—is that if this disease should be allowed to spread, the milk supply for children and invalids would be practically cut off, as the ailment is contagious through milk, especially in the case of those of immature years or with a constitution weakened by illness.

There is a third consideration, which would never occur to the man in the street. It is this. As in the case of typhoid, one is always likely to get among the "cured cases" a few "carriers." Thus the disease would be transmitted to otherwise healthy herds.

For these reasons, therefore, it is of the highest advantage that the citizens of this country should understand why it is that our methods of dealing with outbreaks should be of such a drastic nature.

A CASUAL COMMENTARY

OXFORD'S CROWDED HOUR

"**A**RE you still a partisan?" asked a young Cambridge friend of mine after Oxford had gained their third try, "or are you academic?" Then he added: "I think it's about time to be academic." Certainly it was a moment at which to take as detached a view as possible, because that third try, just after half-time, had emphatically "torn it"; Cambridge were beaten; it was vain to shout any more. As I write, on the evening of the defeat, I envy Oxford the luxury of their own feelings, and I should be ready to be as academic as need be were I more learned in the niceties of Rugby. As learning is denied me and partisanship is forbidden me I must try to give some glimpses as seen by an ignoramus through a fog.

The fog was undoubtedly a feature of the match, though I have seen far thicker ones, in ancient days, at Queen's Club. My kind hosts drove me down early to Twickenham, and by one o'clock our two cars were teed up in a perfect situation for getting away afterwards; and then what a cold lunch we had! It would seem in retrospect like a beautiful dream, only that nobody could dream such a cold bird, such a hard-boiled egg, such a divine something resembling a glorified sausage roll, such cheese, such celery, such nectar. It would probably have seemed just as heavenly if we had known that Cambridge were to be smashed, but we were full of arrogant hope; as we looked anxiously at the trees to see if they grew any dimmer in the yellow light, our chief fear was that we should not be able to see the victory. In fact, the light grew, if anything, better, and we saw a good deal, but all of it had, like the Lord Chancellor in the great opening scene in Bleak House, "a foggy glory round its head."

For instance, we could see that the seats all around us were packed, but the stand opposite was one vast black expanse, in which the only things visible were the little pin-points of golden flame that came and went continuously—not will-o'-the-wisps flying here and there with their lanterns, but the matches of many pipes and cigars. When the players appeared, Cambridge, in their light blue and white stripes, were easy to see compared with the dark and—if we had realised it—ominous Oxford; and easiest of all was the referee, a vivid splash of scarlet. When the game started, I am certain that for the first three or four minutes I did not see the ball. I have become accustomed to the depressing fact of not seeing a golf ball as well as I could, but hang it! a football is big enough: I did think I would see that. Yet to begin with one could hear the thud of a punt, and a second later one saw the touch judge up-lifting his flag; one knew what had happened, but how exactly it had happened one could only guess. The distant figures flitted furiously hither and thither in obvious pursuit of something; they seemed to flit at an unearthly speed, but their quarry was hidden. In time the ball did appear, for either the light improved, as I think it did, or one's eyes grew acclima-

tised as they do on a pitch dark night. Some things, as the game went on, one saw almost too well, such as the three exciting Oxford tries in the second half; but one thing which would have brought some comfort in the seeing was wholly invisible. The papers tell me that Lockhart dropped a goal, and doubtless he did; but all that we knew, in my Cambridge eyrie, was that there were confused doings in front of the Oxford goal and that suddenly our men were running cheerfully back.

If ever a side deserved to win a match, Oxford deserved to win this one. It is one thing to get chances, and quite another to take them: Oxford scarcely let one chance slip when it was given, and forced openings for themselves when they were not given. I do not think it is too much to say that they never looked particularly likely to score until they had actually done so. On the whole, they had rather the worst of the first half, and yet they were eight points up at half-time, and their second try, when Cooke flashed over the line in no time, was a thunderbolt from a comparatively clear sky. In the second half they were obviously full of victorious confidence, and yet each try, when it came, had an element of surprise, of no more than half a chance splendidly taken, if rather weakly given. The best moment in the second half, as I saw it, did not end in a try, but it was intensely exciting. Obolensky and Walford went three-quarters of the length of the ground amid an ever louder volume of shouting. For that matter, it was always exciting when Obolensky had the ball; he had not many chances, though once in the first half a gap nearly opened magically before him, but there was always the possibility of drama.

I am, as I said, ignorant, but it seemed to me that the best thing in the match was the utterly remorseless tackling of the Cambridge three-quarter line by its opposite numbers. That vaunted line had plenty of the ball and was strangely ineffective. Hardly had it got into its stride—and its stride went too often straight across the field—when, with a crash as of thunder, down went the man with the ball, with a dark blue demon on the top of him. It reminded me of the way in which the New Zealand backs had crashed to earth at Cardiff before the tremendous tackling of Claud Davey. It happened oftener and oftener as the Oxford defence became more clearly inspired and the Cambridge attack more despairing. Down went the man with the ball. "Down, down, down!" exclaimed a passionate Cambridge lady next to me, and her tone was of one reciting Dryden's famous lines with an ever descending emphasis:

Fallen, fallen, fallen, fallen
Fallen from their high estate.

That was what she seemed to say, and she had good reason.

B. D.

P.S.—The Soccer match next day brought a measure of comfort though it would be idle to pretend that it has the same value. Still, Oxford were going to win and Cambridge did win 3—2, —surprise for surprise, tit for tat.

A SOUTHDOWN SHOOT

Described by Major H. B. C. POLLARD



ONE OF THE STANDS AT THE FOOT OF BIGNOR HILL



WHERE HIGH BIRDS ARE OFTEN OUT OF SHOT

HERE are very few shoots in England where birds are so high that they are really out of shot; but there are one or two places on the South Downs where the landward face of the escarpment is precipitously steep. At Bignor Hill, above Coldharbour in West Sussex, the contour lines on the map close together, and the level top of the Downs is well over seven hundred feet.

The top of the Downs is typical scrub; the side of the precipice is mainly wooded, a fine example of the Sussex "hanger," and the guns stand on the 250ft. contour line. Behind and below is a covert running from Sutton, which is at 84ft. above sea level.

It follows that a bird, rising on the crest of the Downs, starts four hundred and fifty odd feet above the guns, some six hundred feet above his "destination."

Actually the birds dip and, to some extent, come down over the hillside. It is seldom that one fires at what one can estimate as between two and three hundred feet; but a very large number take off between two hundred feet and a hundred and fifty, and, as the range of a good shotgun is not more, with No. 6 shot, than one hundred and twenty feet, these birds are out of range before they start.

They come with a curl on them as well as this defeating drop, and if there is a south-westerly gale screaming over the top of the Downs and making eddies in the shelter below, birds fly as swiftly and as erratically as leaves before a gale.

I have shot this stand in foul weather, and, though the average performance of the shots was good in normal conditions, I fear that three or four brace was all that eight guns could show out of several hundred pheasants at that stand.

As in many natural high shoots or with driven partridges crossing a high Norfolk screen belt of firs, one forgets that the

Dec. 18th, 1937.



MR. P. B. WALLACE TAKES ONE BEHIND

birds are coming down. Years of shooting at the rising bird makes one shoot over. Here you have to shoot deliberately *under* the birds. I admit I can't do it myself, but there is knack about these high stands, and once one has got the trick of it one can seem to be a very formidable shot. I do not, however, think that the average guest is likely to put up a very remarkable shoot—unless he has had analogous experience on the borders of Wales or at some special hill shoot.

The shoot is now Colonel Blacker's of Coates House, and the head-keeper is Fermor, who was long with Rothschilds in France and later with Lord Leconfield. He can show birds as well as any man in the country. The shoot goes towards Selhurst on the top of the Downs, and includes "The Benjys," a wood which used to be one of the most celebrated woodcock shoots in the south country. In the old days 'cock shoots were held there, and in favourable woodcock years astonishing bags are traditionally recorded.

These Sussex downland shoots have a character of their own.

They comprise big woodlands not too easy to handle, and often masses of rather difficult scrub. Exposed as they are to the full force of winter gales, they are tactically difficult, for birds will, in one quarter of the wind, follow one line of contours, while if the wind is in another quarter their flight will be wholly different.

In theory, one can push pheasants anywhere, and in calm weather the rule holds true on the Downs as elsewhere; but in a gale, or even a high wind—and there nearly always is a high wind on the Downs—questions of aeronautics seem to affect the birds, and their flight line is often less determined by an eventual destination covert than by the least line of resistance and the lee side of hills.

The recent weather has not been the best for shooting. Snow, followed by strong wind, sleet and rain, are conditions which tend to move birds down from the top of the downs to more sheltered valley coverts, and even the most efficient posting of stops only keeps in the birds which were roosting there the previous night.

These conditions hardly allowed one to see the shoot at its best, and the weather was also a difficulty for the photographer. There were, however, most admirably high birds, some of which, when flying across the horseshoe valleys formed by the steep landward spurs of the Downs, were undoubtedly far above normal shooting range.

In places the sides of Farm Wood Down are so precipitous that they make the work of the beaters and the boys almost a mountaineering task—in fact, the shoot is known as one of the best for high birds in the country, and is also notoriously difficult to beat, for birds can and do run back in steep spots, where the wooded face of the escarpment is almost impenetrable by beaters.



COLONEL STEWART BLACKER GETS A CURLER



LADY DORIS BLACKER

It is always difficult to gauge the height at which birds fly, but careful reference to the contours on the Ordnance Survey show that some of the observed birds rose at about six hundred feet and landed on the opposing side well above the four hundred foot line. They were often two hundred and fifty feet above the guns. Even at the very end of beats, when birds were being pushed

out from the lower levels, the average of height was still far more than that of a normal level country shoot.

No attempt has been made to develop for heavy bags, but in three years a very great deal has been done towards making one of the most distinctive and difficult shoots in the south of England.

LANDSCAPE AND COAL

A NEW SHAFT THAT WILL NOT BLIGHT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

THE English landscape at the moment is still that of eighteenth-century England. The pattern of fields, hedges and trees is agricultural. The new problem of the change in landscape arose the moment that the outer crust of the earth was penetrated and minerals were brought up to the surface. The landscape of agriculture is the surface; the landscape of mining is wholly different.

The first industrial buildings were untidily planned, and took no note of the human being by whom they were worked. This, basically, is one of the reasons why, until recently, most industrial buildings have been a discord in landscape. There appears no reason why a group of industrial buildings that are conscious of the human element and the need of its welfare should not become agreeable. The greater the care for the human being, perhaps the greater the distinction of the grouping of the buildings in the landscape. Therefore, it is this human element that must harmonise buildings of a great scale (which express workings a third of a mile below the surface) with a local country-side (which expresses a few feet of surface only).

The Germans have made notable advances in the amenities of the pit-head buildings since the War years, and part of the present scheme is a result of a close study of their methods and experience.

The B.A. Collieries, Limited, was formed in 1936, for the purpose of bringing together three old-established companies: the Bestwood Coal and Iron Company, the Babbington Coal Company, and the Digby Colliery Company. The Company employs five thousand five hundred men, and produces some three million tons of coal per annum. The development of the area brought under the control of the merger company has involved the sinking of a new shaft at Calverton. The present shaft is to take six hundred and fifty men. At a later stage a second shaft will be sunk, and it is calculated there will be a production of a million tons of coal per annum at Calverton.

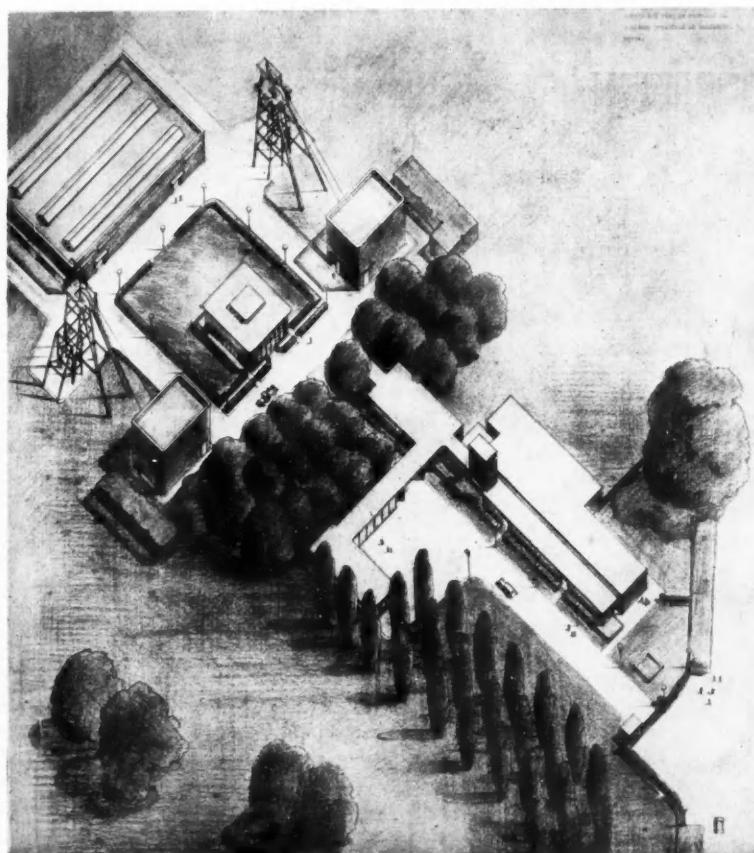
The Chairman of the Company is Captain C. G. Lancaster, who brings to a new problem the traditions of the English landowner in the care and maintenance of landscape. It was decided that the lay-out of the buildings must not only not detract from the landscape, but, if possible, be an added amenity. The surrounding country is entirely agricultural, and contains a village of about a thousand inhabitants, famous for the introduction of hand looms for the silk hose industry in the seventeenth century.

The scheme falls into three groups. The first is the pit-head buildings themselves, of which an illustration is shown; the second is the settlement designed for five hundred miners; and the third is the playing fields. These three groups are welded into one design by the modelling of the ground, and by tree planting in a sufficiently

grand manner to establish a relationship. Thus the scale of the groupings of the pit-head buildings is larger than that of the miners' settlement, although the latter will occupy a larger ground space. The main belt of trees will divide what one might call the human element from the machine element. Thus it will appear to penetrate the pit-head buildings, dividing the pit-head baths and offices from the greater scale of the buildings that house the machinery; it will separate the playing fields from the large area which will be devoted eventually to railway sidings and other requirements. The colliery surface lay-out will be designed and treated to conform with the landscape. The scheme is all-electric, and therefore will be entirely clean. There will be no smoke, nor the sight and noise of steam that usually indicate the working of winding engines. There will be no sound, and, indeed, the only sound of activity until the second stage, when coal is brought to the surface, will be the almost silent humming noise of the electrical plant. (It is interesting to note that the hum of electricity at a mine is known to attract, unfortunately enough, the woodpecker.) The miner will never be seen externally on the surface unwashed and in mining kit. From the moment he enters the baths he reaches the shaft and returns by underground conduits. This enables garden courts to be laid out and pleasantly maintained, even around the industrial buildings.

What is the relationship of this group to the landscape in which it is set? Six months ago there was nothing to disturb its complacency except for a small datum peg in a field of roots. This was the centre of the shaft. In a few years' time the surrounding countryside will look upon something entirely new and apparently foreign. But although it will see shapes that were before unknown, its own surface materials will penetrate throughout the whole scheme.

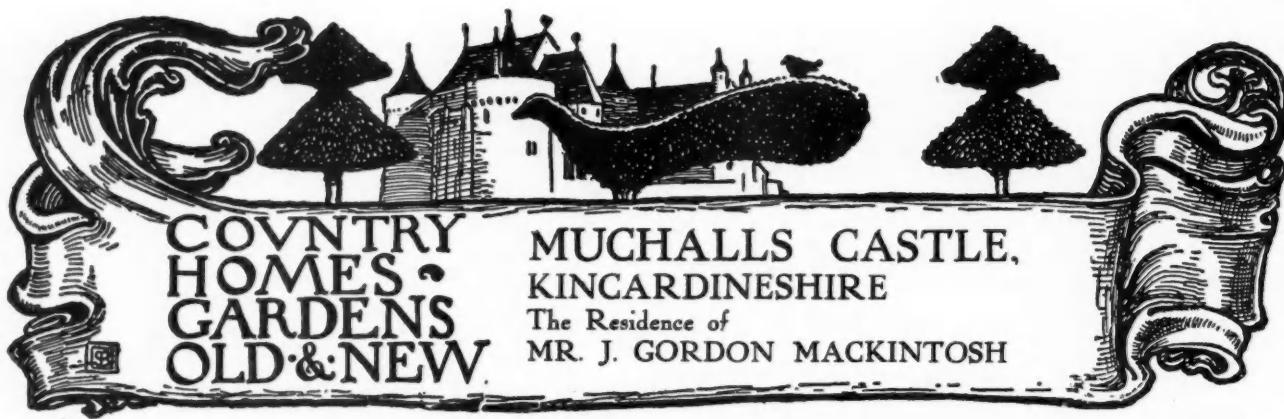
These are the building materials, which are mainly brick, but more especially grass and a variety of trees that will flow in and out of the various types of buildings. The village of Calverton (itself buried in landscape) will merge into the miners' settlement, the houses of which will be grouped in squares with gardens, indicative of containing one family only. On the farther side will be the larger-scale amenity buildings, with the playing fields, and almost adjoining them the pit-head buildings and offices. Thence the tree belt will be penetrated, and the climax reached by the two great sheaves and attendant buildings overlooking the long valley leading to northeast. The transition throughout has been gentle. Possibly the most interesting part of a unified scheme such as this is the way it calls for co-ordination between various activities and authorities. The architectural work of the Miners' Welfare Committee is some of the most up-to-date of any in this country, and it is the intention at Calverton that the character of modern architecture should be retained throughout.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE COLLIERY BUILDINGS BEING ERECTED AT CALVERTON, NOTTS

Being all electric, there will be no smoke; the miner enters and leaves via the baths and lamp rooms on the right, proceeding to the shaft by underground conduits. This arrangement makes it possible to plan gardens around the pit-head. A garden village will be placed beyond a low ridge to the right.

Captain R. C. Wilson, Engineer. Jellicoe, Page and Wilson, Architects.



Begun in 1619 by Alexander Burnet of Leys, and finished by his son in 1627, Muchalls is an unusually richly decorated and well preserved Scottish "manor house."

THE coast of Kincardineshire between Stonehaven and Aberdeen can be bleak enough in bad weather; but in spring, when I went to Muchalls, the big ploughs and bright rolling pastures were backed by a sapphire blue sea below the cliffs that bound the farms. Landwards the ground continues to rise gently, chequered by big-scale cultivation, but with next to no woodland. One of the few groups of trees, grey and leafless, crouched on the skyline of the rising hinterland, turned out to be those of the Muchalls policies. From the terrace at the back of the house one looks over the garden wall and the green and brown fields, through which the main road and railway runs, to a great expanse of sea.

What impelled the laird of Leys, towards the end of his life, to buy and begin re-building Muchalls, when he was already amply, not to say sumptuously, housed at Crathes, not twenty miles away inland, is not clear. The finishing and decoration of Crathes had been the first care of Alexander and his wife Katharine Gordon, when he had succeeded his father in 1578—a task that he had not completed before 1600. He bought the Muchalls property from Francis, Earl of Erroll, in 1606, and actually died there, presumably in the pre-existing house, in 1619, when the present building was only just begun. Since he made other considerable additions to the Burnett estates, and had a large family besides a wife with, it seems justifiable to conclude, a due sense of her importance, Muchalls may have been intended as a dower house, or as an establishment for one

of the sons. One of the latter was a physician practising in England, and, considering that Alexander died here during the month of July, it is just possible that Muchalls had been bought and begun as a summer resort for reasons of health.

A comparison between this house, begun at the end of his life, with Crathes, which had been begun building in 1553, illustrates the change that had come over the Scottish country gentleman's conception of a house since Mary, Queen of Scots' days. The elements of a defensible castle were retained: the forecourt enclosed by a strong wall, ornamented rather than fortified with bartizans; other bartizans on the corners of the house, and, in one place at least, a corbelled overhanging upper storey reminiscent of a keep. But the building is undeniably a house, with its two equally proportioned wings, one facing north and the other, the principal one, east. Over the entrance to the courtyard a contemporary inscription records the beginning of the building and its completion by Sir Thomas Burnett, the first baronet. The survival of the wall is interesting, as few specimens of such fore-works, almost invariable at the time, now remain. It is pleasantly planted with Cotoneaster horizontalis; and against the protected, south-facing wall of the house within, great bushes of fuchsia grow with unexpected luxuriance. There are traces of a considerable formal lay-out with terraces and a garden house west of the house, probably dating from Charles II's reign (Fig. 12).

Sir Thomas Burnett, one of the original Nova Scotia



Copyright

1.—THE DEFENSIVE FORECOURT, LOOKING NORTH-EAST

"Country Life"



2. THE HALL ON THE FIRST FLOOR



Copyright

3.—AMONG THE RICHEST PLASTERWORK IN SCOTLAND

"Country Life"

The hall ceiling, modelled in 1624 by an English craftsman who also executed ceilings at Glamis and Craigievar



4.—OVERMANTEL AND CEILING IN THE STUDY



5.—IN THE DINING-ROOM

"Country Life"

baronets, reigned from 1619 till 1653—a troubled period in which he was allied by friendship with the leaders of the Episcopalian party, but by conviction with the Covenanters: "a faithful lover and follower of the Marquis of Huntly," as a contemporary noted, "but ane gryte Covenanter also." Aberdeen was the centre of a civil war in miniature during 1638-39, with the University all for episcopacy, and a powerful committee nominated from Edinburgh, including Sir Thomas Burnett and headed by the Earl of Montrose, responsible for enforcing the Covenant. Muchalls played some part in the subsequent disturbances. In the summer of 1638 the committee strained relations at the outset by refusing to drink the "Cup of Bon Accord" offered to all strangers by the City burgesses: found the churches barred against them, so held open-air meetings: and then presented their case in a formal disputation at the University. After their forensic exertions the Covenanting orators are recorded to have withdrawn to Muchalls, no doubt at Burnett's invitation, "and in that conveniency they took some dayes leisure for to draw up an answer to the doctors of Aberdeen's replies." Words gradually gave place to



6.—A MEDALLION ON THE HALL CEILING
Repeated at Glamis and identical with those on a ceiling from the Old Palace, Bromley-by-Bow, 1612, now at South Kensington

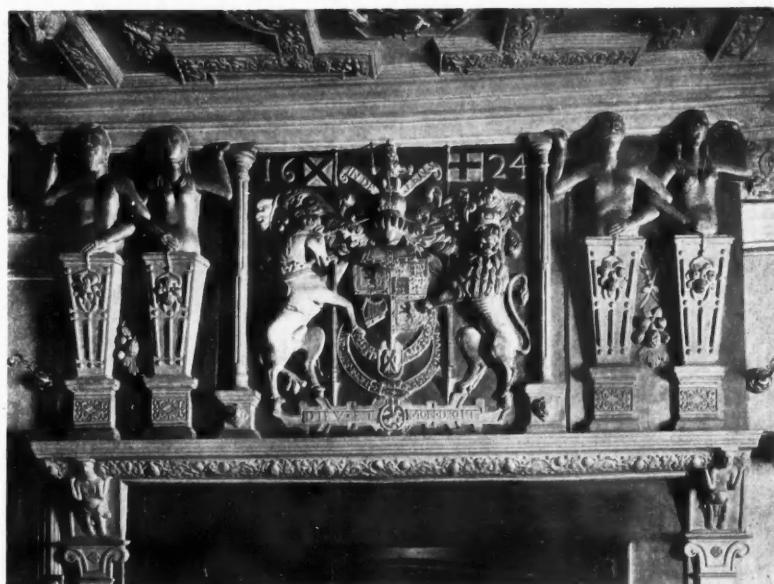
blows. Montrose and Leslie, the Covenanting generals, entered Aberdeen in March, 1639, with 11,000 men, and treacherously seized Huntly, whose son, Aboyne, thereupon raised an Aberdeenshire force and encamped at Muchalls, "which house was rifled by them the next day in their return."

No serious damage seems to have been done to the house, which Sir Thomas had finished decorating some twelve years before. Its plan shows none of the traditional arrangements that would be found in an English house of that date, though the joining of the two wings at right angles is an adaptation of sixteenth-century castle planning to residential needs. All the living-rooms are on the first floor. The single original entrance is in the angle formed by a south-western turret containing the main stairs; and a passage to the left on entering the door leads to the kitchen in the north-east corner, where a stair in the inner angle has been added to communicate from kitchen to hall above. The rest of the basement is taken up by groined cellars.

The hall (Fig. 2) occupies the whole depth of the east wing and is remarkable for its magnificent plaster ceiling, frieze, and overmantel, which is dated 1624. It is the most elaborate of a group of closely allied ceilings in the district. Not only are many of its details identical to work done at Glamis dated 1620,

and at Craigievar dated 1625, but the source of the moulds used can be traced to London. The same medallions of the Worthies (Fig. 6) had been used in 1610 in the very similar State Room ceiling of the Old Palace, Bromley-by-Bow, London, now in the Victoria and Albert Museum. "Now," wrote Mr. Laurence Turner in *Decorative Plasterwork in Great Britain*, "there is nothing of which a craftsman is more jealous than the preservation of his own designs and models for his own use. In those days the same man who made the designs made the moulds and the ceiling. One plasterer would not allow another to make use of his moulds which were more important to him than his working monetary capital, and it is most unlikely that he would allow them to go out of his keeping." It is quite clear that the same plasterer worked at Glamis, Muchalls and Craigievar in the 1620's, and it appears extremely probable that he was a London man on the evidence of the Bromley-by-Bow ceiling—an instance of direct contact in craftsmanship between London and Scotland that I have not seen noted at so early a date.

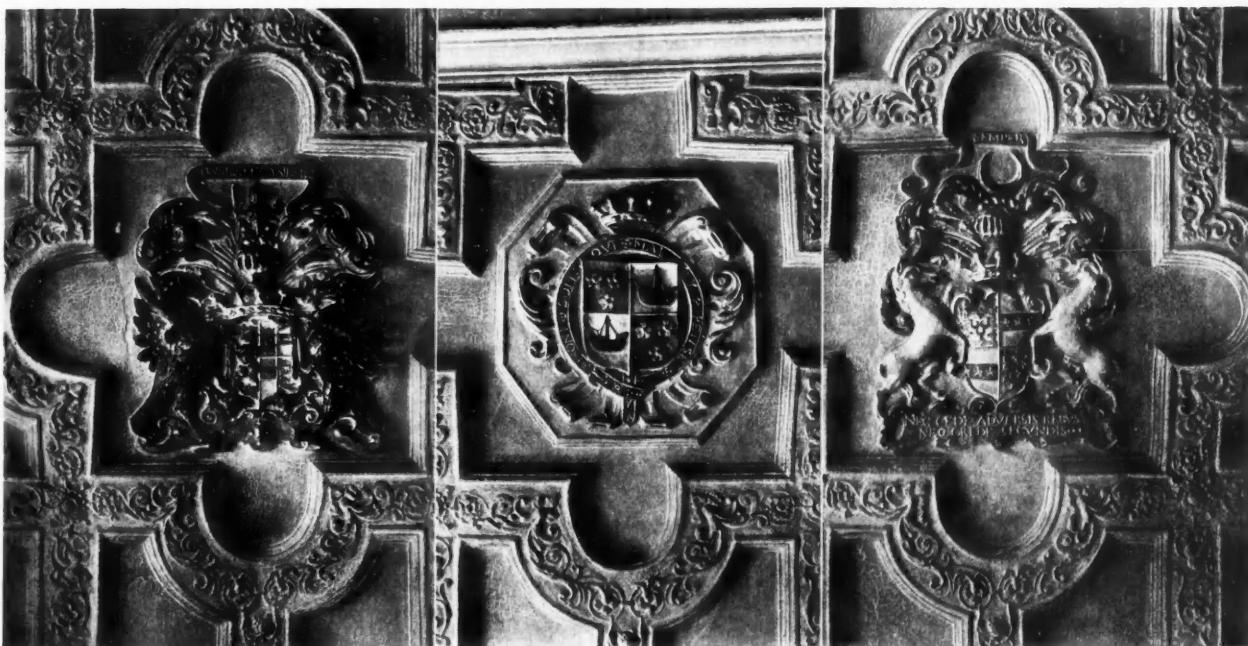
The hall ceiling comprises six delicately modelled coats of arms, the original tinctures of which were found under successive layers of whitewash; four medallions of Worthies; three "knops" down the centre with hooks for hanging lamps—the central one of which (Fig. 3) is elaborately modelled with little faces and is closely similar to one at Craigievar: all joined together by a pattern of straight and curved ribs bearing a flowing relief of flower-forms. These ribs are made up of pre-cast sections—e.g., the curved member with its adjoining straight ends in Fig. 6, where the joins can be distinguished. Where necessary, the joints are concealed by hand modelling *in situ* of some leaf or stalk, as can be seen by comparing the eight joints in Fig. 8. The coats of arms are those (beginning above the fireplace) of Hamilton (Fig. 10), Dunfermline (Fig. 11)—both friends of Robert Burnett—Lauderdale (Fig. 9), and Burnett (Fig. 8) before the inclusion of his baronet's badge. Flanking the central knop are Burnett impaling Moncrieff for Sir Thomas's second wife, and Burnett impaling Gordon for his mother. In the sloping frieze above the four window embrasures are, on the west side, Gordon (mother), Forbes (son-in-law); and on the east, Arbuthnot (great-grandmother) and Moncreiff (great-great-grandmother).



7.—THE HALL CHIMNEYPEICE



8.—THE BURNETT ARMS ON THE HALL CEILING



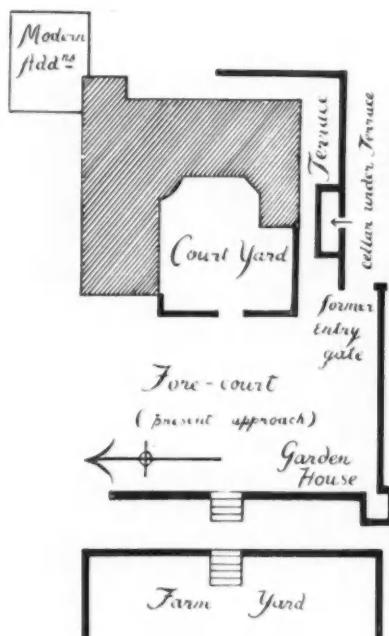
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9.—LAUDERDALE

10.—HAMILTON

11.—DUNFERMLINE

"Country Life"



12.—SKETCH PLAN OF LAY-OUT

The chimneypiece (Fig. 7), behind which is a deep ingle nook now closed in, has the Royal arms, painted and gilt, with the unicorn holding the banner of St. Andrew, much as at Craigievar, flanked by four term figures. Their baluster-like



13.—THE COURTYARD GATE

bases recur in a similar position at Glamis and Craigievar, also the torsos with linked arms—modelled identically at Glamis but much more clumsily at Craigievar.

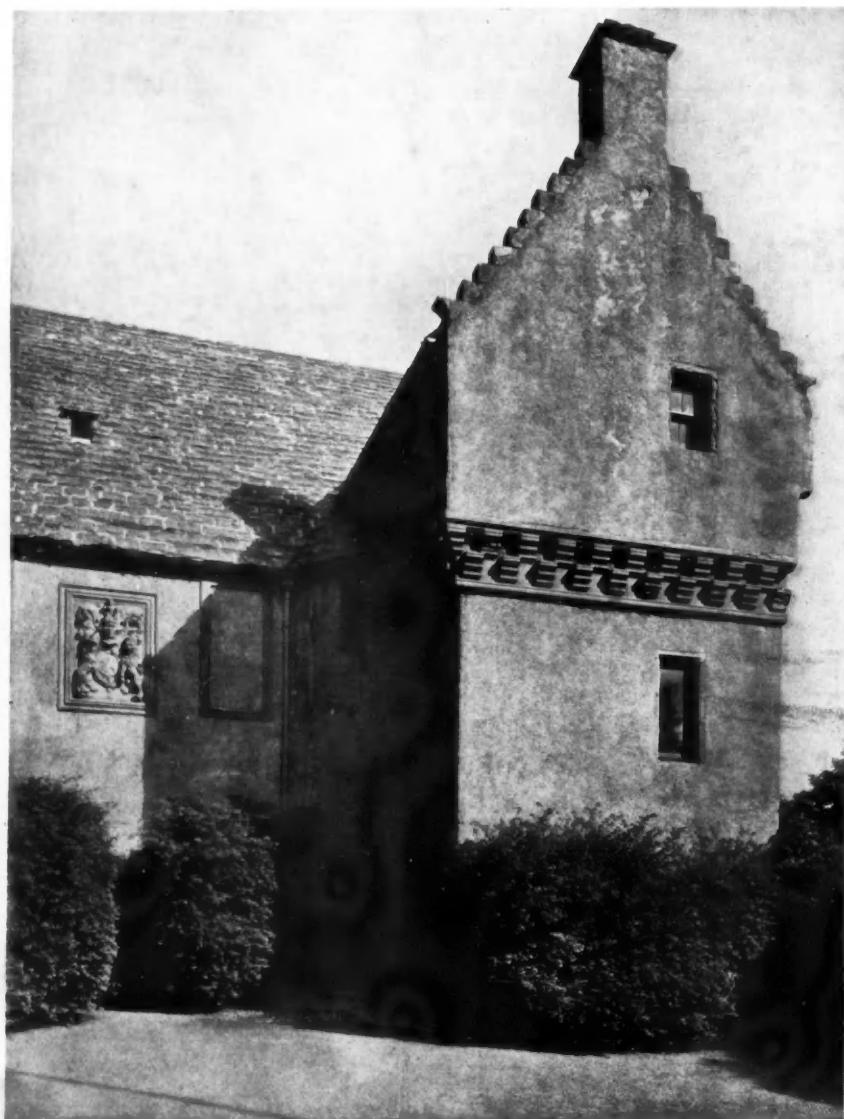
Two other rooms have similar plasterwork, also dated 1624. Both ceilings (Figs. 4 and 5) have small medallions of "Lucresia," "Tarquin," twice each; and larger ones of Alexander, Joshua, David, Hector, and "Jovinianus," which also recur at Glamis and Craigievar. Glamis, too, can match the overmantels, though, of course, with different heraldry—in this case Burnett.

The mould used for the coat of arms was the same as for the one on the hall ceiling; the treatment is in general like the carved stone plaque formerly at Muchalls but now at Crathes. A similar plaque, dated 1620, and another of the Royal arms remain on the entry front of Muchalls (Fig. 14).

After the death of Sir Thomas, his son in 1662 leased Muchalls to a cousin, Robert Burnett of Cowtoun, who was to bulk large in family history. He had amassed considerable property, became a Quaker, and, as guardian of the youthful third baronet, was known as the Tutor of Leys. When he opposed the marriage of his ward, being under age, to a daughter of Lord Arbuthnot, the young man proceeded to settle Muchalls on his new wife and brought an action against the Tutor for non-payment of rents and profits on the property, which he won. Undeterred by this setback, the crafty Tutor eventually married his elder daughter to his former ward's son. But by now Burnett fortunes were somewhat low. In 1705 the Muchalls property was sold for £6,673 to Thomas Fullerton.

It is now owned by the Aberdeen Endowments Trust, who acquired it at the end of the nineteenth century for the sum of £70,000. During the time of their first tenant, Lord Robertson of Forteviot, extensive improvements were made both inside and outside the Castle. To him and the present owners the careful repair of the building is due, as is the cleaning and preservation of the ceilings—the most notable of their kind in Scotland.

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.



14.—THE FRONT DOOR AND STAIRCASE TURRET IN THE COURTYARD

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

A STUDY IN TRANSITIONS — REVIEWED BY EDITH OLIVIER

Helen's Tower, by Harold Nicolson. (Constable, 15s.)
THIS is a beautiful book, sensitive and evocative. Reading it is like hearing a half-muffled peal of bells, each clear cadence followed by its subdued echo; for each of the delicately drawn pictures of the past has a double significance. "Helen's Tower" is called by its author "A Study in Transitions," and this means that it is not merely the record of a life. It is a series of scenes recalled, to illustrate the passing of a *temps perdu*. The dominant note of transition is struck in more than one relationship. There is first of all the transition from Miss Plimsoll to Mr. Nicolson himself.

"Miss Plimsoll," piped little Harold, in the *temps perdu* when the voice of his governess was as the voice of God. "Is Uncle Dufferin a great man?" To which Miss Plimsoll, after considerable manipulation of the teapot, and a long glance, in search of inspiration, at the picture of Uncle Dufferin curling near Montreal, replied slowly: "He is the greatest man in the world."

"It's a long way to Tipperary," but it would be a still longer way for Mr. Nicolson to return to those days of enraptured acquiescence. "I think I now know what I feel about this question," he says, in the balanced unprejudiced tones of to-day. "Was he a great statesman or only a great diplomatist? He was certainly a very great diplomatist."

Then there is the transition from Sir Walter Scott to, let us say, Mr. Aldous Huxley. "I love Sir Walter Scott," wrote Lord Dufferin, "with all my heart; and, my mother excepted, I think he has done more to form my character than any other influence; for he is the soul of purity, chivalry, respect for women and healthy religious feeling." This is not the strain in which the statesmen of to-day speak of our chief literary men. On Sundays, at Clandeboye, the little Harold joined the procession to the chapel. It was headed by Uncle Dufferin, leaning on his ebony stick, with, beside him, Lady Dufferin, wearing her bonnet and bolero, and carrying her black lace parasol and a prayer-book. "One was not expected to talk on the way to Chapel, and our feet, therefore, could be heard as we approached, crunching steadily together upon the gravel." No unmistakable sound like this will recall, thirty years hence, the atmosphere of the Sundays of to-day.

Mr. Nicolson places the transition from Oligarchy to Plutocracy in the "three years between 1853 and 1856"—the Crimean War years. "Never," he thinks, "for a young nobleman would life be quite so privileged or effortless again." But Lord Dufferin saw, too, "the self-confidence of the nineteenth century crumble within its last three weeks," during the Boer War, which killed his eldest son. "From that moment, the lavish gaiety of Clandeboye became a thing of the past." He could not long outlive that dear dead century.

It is always with surprise that we learn that our elders were ever young. After Lord Dufferin was dead, Mr. Nicolson read his uncle's "Letters from High Latitudes," and compared "this ardour of vitality, this flaming curiosity of mind, this Byronic clash between romanticism and flippancy, with my own memories of an old man in a chair by the fireside . . . reading *Æschylus* by the light of a green-shaded lamp. . . . Would I also become hard of hearing, slow of movement, superbly patriarchal?" It is the eternal transition, unbelievable, inescapable, and never more delicately described than in this book.

Does nothing then endure? The title of this book answers the question, and so do its illustrations. The Sheridan eyes outlive the Sheridans. They can be seen, almond-shaped, drooping, and long-lashed, in the portraits of each generation. And the winds still beat without avail upon the walls of Helen's Tower, set on the Irish shore by Lord Dufferin to commemorate the love of a son for a mother, whom he described as "one of the

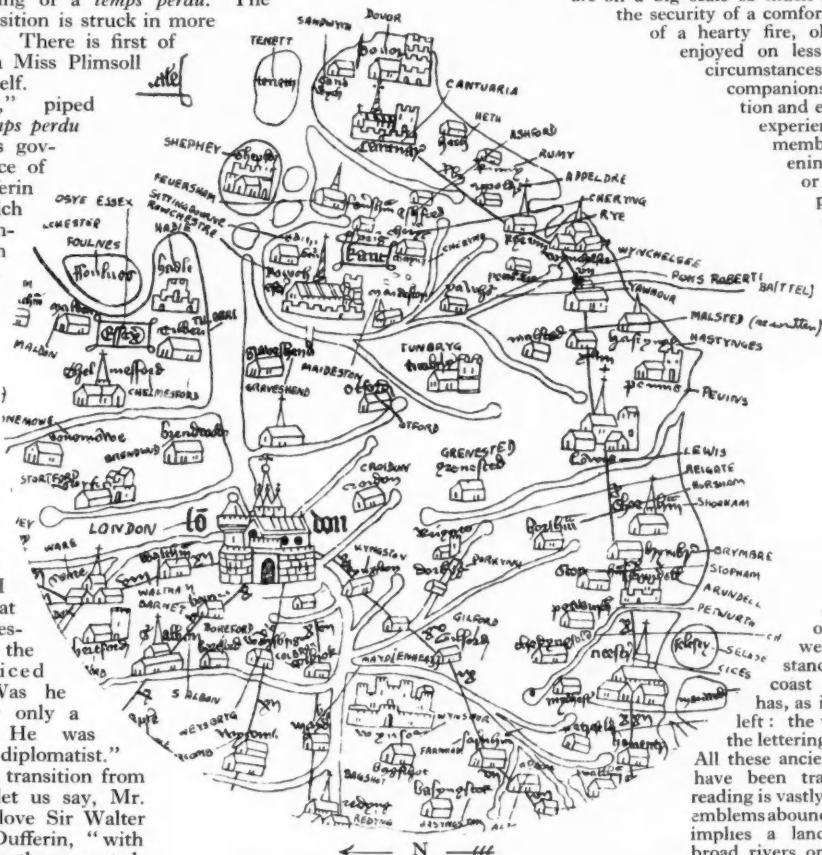
sweetest, most beautiful, most accomplished, wittiest, most loving and lovable human beings that ever walked upon the earth." The motto of this book might be: "Tout passe : Amour dure."

CARTOGRAPHY IN OLD ENGLAND

IT is no bad thing on a thoroughly bad day in winter—so thoroughly bad that one is kept indoors—to pull out some old maps—and if they are on a big scale so much the better—and retrace, in the security of a comfortable chair and the warmth of a hearty fire, old rides and old rambles enjoyed on less rigorous days. In such circumstances a map can be the best of companions, sharpening the recollection and evoking the details of scenes experienced and encounters remembered, apart from its quickening aid, only in vague outline or dimly that they were pleasant. To delve into ancient maps and ponder the cartographer's contribution to recorded history in documents is a pleasant variant to the pastime, though not uncharged with the melancholy that is stimulated in most of us by the evidence of change—change, in the case of the English landscape, unhappily most often for the worse. And of all old maps of our own land, there is none more remarkable, probably, than that in the Bodleian Library which the Ordnance Survey has now done well to reproduce. The representations of Great Britain with which we are familiar commonly stand with the line of the south coast as their base. This map has, as it were, been turned to the left: the west coast is the base, and the lettering reads from north to south.

All these ancient names on this facsimile have been transcribed in red, so that reading is vastly facilitated. Symbols and emblems abound. The number of churches implies a land of surpassing piety, of broad rivers one of exceeding moisture. Sea monsters so dominate the *Mare Aquilonare Sine Termino* that it is almost a relief to reflect that "fishes that tingle in the deep know (to-day) no such liberty."

No collector of maps need boast his array complete, lacking this enthralling document. It costs only eighteenpence. How was the original produced in 1325? It will make an interesting story. R.C.



Part of a Map of England made in 1325 and now reproduced by the Ordnance Survey

The Country Scene, by John Masefield and Edward Seago. (Collins, 3 gns.) AMONG the many books published this season there is none richer in treasure than this, for Mr. Masefield here gives us forty-two new poems of country life, and they are accompanied by as many extraordinarily fine reproductions of oil paintings of a similar interest by Mr. Seago. All the many admirers of the Poet Laureate's splendid appreciation of the English scene and those who have met with the artist's work at the Royal Academy, and other exhibitions, and in his books, will realise the possibilities of such a volume, and they are explored very fully. As the publishers rightly emphasise, this is not an "illustrated book," but poet and painter have looked on the same scene and recorded it each in his own manner.

The History of the Althorp and Pytchley Hunt, 1643-1920, by Guy Paget. (Collins, 3 guineas.)

MAJOR PAGET'S long-awaited book is a very sumptuous affair, with excellent colour reproductions of the famous Althorp Woottons among its hundred illustrations. Though the history of the Althorp Hunt really begins in 1625, Major Paget traces back the origins of hunting to the grant of the manor of Pytchley before the Conquest to Alwyn le Veneur on condition of his keeping down the vermin in the Royal forests in the Midland counties. The Althorp and the Pytchley countries were hunted separately till about 1840, though by the same hounds after the first Earl Spencer assumed the mastership of the Pytchley in 1763. The book follows the fortunes of the Hunt Club and of such famous Masters as Ward, Lord Althorp, Squire Osbaldeston, Anstruther Thompson, and the "Red Earl"; while the account of Lord Annesley's followers will recall to a few "some of the good companions with whom we rode when Edward VII was King."

A SELECTION FOR THE LIBRARY LIST

ALAN PARSONS' BOOK, Edited by Viola Tree (Heinemann, 10s. 6d.); RACING, CRUISING AND DESIGN, by Uffa Fox (Peter Davies, 35s.); THE ENGLISH PRINT, by Basil Grey (Black, 7s. 6d.); Fiction: HALF AN EYE; SEA STORIES, by James Hanley (Lane, 8s. 6d.); THE CLEFT STICK, by Walter Greenwood (Selwyn and Blount, 10s. 6d.).

TROUT FISHING AT 12,000 FEET



"SOME FOUR HUNDRED FEET ABOVE, LIES LAKE VISHENSAR"

NORTH of the main valley of Kashmir, trapped high up in the block of mountainous country that lies between the valleys of the Sind and Kishengunga Rivers, lie two lakes, Vishensar and Krishensar. Some years ago these lakes were stocked with brown trout, and in 1932 the Kashmir Game Preservation Department included them in the list of trout waters and opened them for fishing by licence.

The lakes lie at an altitude of 12,000ft. The idea of trout fishing at what must be one of the highest, if not the highest, altitudes in the world appealed strongly to my imagination, and I applied for a week on each. I was lucky enough to be allotted the opening week on Lake Krishensar, with a week to follow on Lake Vishensar.

Owing to their altitude, and to the fact that to reach them a pass 14,000ft. high must be crossed, the lakes are only accessible during three or four months in the summer. Early in July, therefore, I left Srinagar, and motored to Gandarbal, in the Sind Valley, and on a few miles to Wyll Bridge. There the motor road ends, and we had to transfer to pack and riding ponies.

I had been living in a houseboat and had brought with me my head boatman, Aziza, to run my camp and act as cook, a *bhistie* or water carrier as his assistant, and a fishing *shikari*. Aziza had made a slight error of judgment. To ensure sufficient transport being available, he had broadcast our intended trip and the time and date of our arrival at Wyll Bridge. The result was that as the lorry pulled up it was surrounded by a regular mob of pony men, each of whom, to ensure his own engagement, seized upon a piece of baggage and made off with it. In a second my baggage was dispersed over the landscape, each piece the centre of a wrangling, struggling group. Words soon gave place to blows, and one old man came

running in, his face streaming with blood from a cut in his forehead, calling loudly on Allah to witness that he was already dead. He seemed a very active and noisy corpse, but I gave him the price of a day's march and he retired from the scene, presumably to bury himself, and I was able to turn my attention to the survivors. Hastily picking out two of the strongest and most truculent I could see, I engaged them on the spot, and, taking them with me to each group in turn, was able to retrieve my belongings, one by one, and collect them at last into a central and well guarded dump.

In the meantime, two other anglers had arrived, bound for Lake Vishensar, and we were able to join forces and trek in company. For three marches we followed the main route to Ladakh, a steady ascent up the valley of the Sind River. Then our track branched to the left up the narrow valley of a tributary torrent, and we began to climb more steeply. The snow that had packed the narrow bed of this valley through the winter and spring still lay thick wherever sheltered from the sun. The torrent had forced its way underneath, leaving the snow in the form of bridges, over which the track crossed and re-crossed as first one side of the valley, then the other, offered the better foothold for the ponies. Already we seemed to have passed into a new country. Gone were the chenar trees and the poplars, the walnut trees and the willows and the terraced rice-fields of the lower valleys of Kashmir. In their place were pines and birches and vivid green turf studded with brightly coloured flowers. Even the inhabitants had changed. This was the home of the Gujars, and it was not long before we came across an encampment of this hardy tribe, who spend their lives herding their cattle on the tops of the hills and in the highest valleys.

Before the end of this march



"CAMP WAS PITCHED IN A BEAUTIFUL PINE FOREST, THE GROUND BEING COVERED WITH WILD STRAWBERRIES"

the last trees were left behind, and camp was pitched in a bleak spot a mile below the pass. Next day an early start was made so that we might be over, and clear of, the pass before the sun gained power. At the top of the pass and for some little way beyond, the snow was still lying several feet deep. At night the surface is frozen to form a crust hard enough to bear the weight of laden ponies, but by day this crust thaws and becomes treacherous, and ponies would break through and find themselves floundering helplessly.

The pass behind us, we descended the valley beyond for some six or seven miles. There the left wall of the valley opens, disclosing what appears to be a cul-de-sac, walled in by towering precipices. At the foot of these, but concealed from below by a natural dam of boulders and rubble, lies Lake Krishensar.

The first view of the lake, suddenly seen as one tops the dam, is unforgettable. On the right there is a narrow strip of level foreshore, strewn down to and into the water with great boulders. Behind this the ground rises steeply to where, some 400ft. above, lies Lake Vishensar. In front, and to the left, in a grim semicircle, their ledges and inequalities, glistening with snow and ice, precipices of black rock rise sheer from the waters of the lake. My first and most lasting impression was of frozen stillness and death-like silence. There were no trees or shrubs to soften the harsh outlines of the rocks, no birds to flit along the shore or relieve the silence with friendly calls, no ripple to disturb the glass-like surface of the lake or blur the mirrored reflection of the frowning precipices. The noise of my own footsteps seemed to ring and echo as in an empty room, and I found myself unconsciously stepping softly to avoid breaking that utter silence. I was to see the lake in widely differing moods. Sometimes it would be lashed to a grey fury by storms as sudden as they were violent. Sometimes, with the sun shining in a clear sky, its waters ruffled by a passing breeze, would flash into a glorious peacock blue. But if I close my eyes the picture that forms itself most persistently is one of the lake lying cold and still in its grim setting, as I saw it in the hushed silence of that first evening.

As I stood and looked down into the clear waters below me I found it difficult to believe that trout could live and thrive in those icy depths. These lakes are often referred to as "the frozen lakes," and must be ice-bound for the greater part of the year. Even as I stood there, however, a shadowy shape seemed to materialise from nowhere, and there, suspended in the crystal clear water, floated a beautiful great trout. Slowly it cruised in to the shore, until I could count every brilliant spot on its side.



AT THE TOP OF A PASS

Then a few leisurely strokes of the tail, and it had vanished as mysteriously as it had appeared. The lake held one trout at least to angle for.

Next morning, rod in hand, I set out to explore the fishing possibilities.

Lake Krishensar is some three-quarters of a mile long by half a mile wide. Both lakes are fed by glaciers and melting snow, Lake Krishensar receiving in addition the overflow from Lake Vishensar. This comes tumbling and leaping down in cascades and waterfalls to where, as it reaches more level ground, it has formed a miniature delta and enters the lake split up into five small streams. Off the mouth of each of these fish would lie feeding, and here I found a wet fly could be used with effect. From the delta to the outlet ran a rocky shore of tumbled boulders, where a thread-line outfit, with small gold Devon, proved more successful. At the outlet, from about nine o'clock in the morning if the sun was shining, I noticed fish feeding on drowned flies, the débris of the previous evening's hatch, as they slowly drifted in from the open lake. I had with me some small English-pattern dry flies, and found that these were taken fairly readily, any pattern seeming to be equally acceptable. For two days during the week fishing was rendered impossible by violent thunderstorms which lasted all day. In the remaining five days I landed twenty fish, the best weighing 3½lb. These, with one or two exceptions, due, probably to the earliness of the season, were in fair or good condition.

In the meantime, reports from Lake Vishensar were not encouraging. I decided, therefore, to give up my week on this water, to part company with my two companions, who were now due to fish Lake Krishensar, and, instead of returning direct to Srinagar, to strike across to the Kishengunga Valley, five marches away.

The first two marches were over snow-covered passes; but the end of the third march brought us down to the tree line again, and camp was pitched in a beautiful pine forest, the ground being covered with wild strawberries.

The evening of the fifth day saw us arriving at Gurais, where the Burdwan stream joins the Kishengunga. It was in the visitors' book at Gurais that an entry by an Indian *nawab*, a recent convert to angling, struck me as epitomising, even if in unconventional phrasing, the real charm of trout fishing. "Every day I have been catching four fishes and if otherwise the rules I might have caught more than dozen. The game is not interesting on the whole if simply small ones are caught simply for belly's sake, but it is really very amusing to catch big ones and enjoy their silly frisks."

C. A. BROWN.



LOOKING DOWN ON LAKE KRISHENSAR FROM THE LEVEL OF LAKE VISHENSAR

THE SMITHFIELD SHOW

THE 1937 Smithfield Club Show will rank as one of the few that were not entirely representative of the full range of animal feeding activities. The actual Show itself compared favourably with many previous exhibitions, but one missed the youngsters that, in the normal course of things, come to the Show for exhibition in the junior classes and then return home for a further year's feeding to prepare themselves for the senior classes. The restrictions imposed for the control of foot-and-mouth disease, however, made the holding of the Show possible under the qualifying condition that all animals exhibited had to be slaughtered after the Show. One can sympathise, therefore, with those who kept their young cattle at home rather than sacrifice them for slaughter at too early a stage in their fattening career. To this extent the Show was robbed of much of its interest, for the Birmingham champion was kept at home, and the baby beef classes generally were very thinly supported. There were quite a number of excellent young animals whose owners elected to sacrifice them for the sake of the competition. Actually the



MR. J. J. CRIDLAN'S ABERDEEN-ANGUS HEIFER, PRIDE OF MAISEMORE 63rd. Supreme Champion of the Show

enough to win, although the margin was very narrow, and this in no sense detracts from those qualities which the champion heifer possessed.

Taking the classes throughout, there was a good deal of unevenness both of numbers and quality as between breeds. Shorthorns showed up very badly, and it is evident that some push is needed somewhere to secure not only a better entry of this extensively kept breed, but also an improvement in the quality of type exhibited. If the breeders of the pure beef type are unable to exhibit better-fleshed beasts, free from unwanted, soft, flabby fat with patches galore, there should be opportunity provided for the dual-purpose breeders within the Shorthorn ranks to try their skill at the game. I liked the Devon show very much. They look every

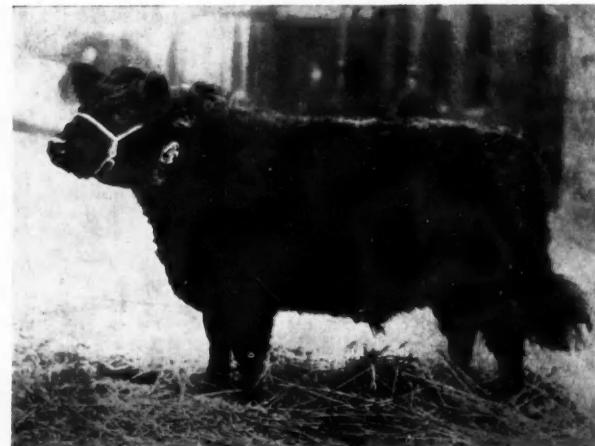
inch quality beef animals, and it was gratifying to see H.M. the King leading several classes in this section, together with the reserve championship for the breed. The Hereford breed was only average in merit, but Lieutenant-Colonel Pollitt had a very well grown baby beef exhibit, and one wondered if dried grass feeding had contributed anything to this



MESSRS. M. C. BROWN AND SON'S HIGHLAND STEER. First and Breed Cup

Show as a whole did not suffer to the extent that one might have anticipated, because just over 800 out of the 1,000 entries were forward.

Somehow or other, the interest, so far as championships are concerned, centres most keenly on the cattle section. One instinctively feels that this championship is one of those rare honours that anyone who is in the business of cattle-feeding would like to annex before being regarded as an expert. Mr. J. J. Cridlan, who has been described before to-day as the "Wizard of Maisemore," notched his stick with his tenth supreme championship at this Show, with the Aberdeen-Angus heifer, Pride of Maisemore 63rd. This uniformity of achievement which belongs to Mr. Cridlan's cattle-breeding and feeding is a tribute to his skill and judgment, as also to the breed to which he has devoted himself for so many years. It was not, however, a walk-over, by any means. I thought that, this year, he had a slice of luck on his side. Lady Robinson, with her heifer, Ilex of Kirklington, of the same age and in the same class, only lost on the verdict of an umpire. Ilex of Kirklington was a longer heifer than the winner, and had three-quarters of a hundred-weight more weight for the same age. She was brought out in perfect condition, and my own judgment was that she was good



MR. JOHN REITH'S GALLOWAY STEER, SANDY First and Breed Cup

successful result. The Sussex breed had its ranks pruned by absentees owing to foot-and-mouth disease restrictions, but the Earl of Guilford had the breed cup. Red Polls were strong numerically, though here again I thought the quality rather uneven. It is difficult when beef and milk interests conflict to know in which direction to turn, but on this Show the Red Poll certainly can lay the strongest claims to be regarded as the typical dual-purpose beast, and breeders are not afraid to demonstrate the fact at Smithfield. Here, indeed, is a lesson to Shorthorn enthusiasts. The Lincoln Red section of the Shorthorn family provided the heaviest animal in the Show, Mr. H. Spilman's two years and seven months old steer weighing 17cwt. This tends to confirm the impression given by Mr. Mansfield in his paper before the Farmers' Club, that the Lincoln Red is one of the best breeds left for imparting weight, especially when crossed with dairy breeds. Galloways were few in number, but representative; while the Welsh breeders exceeded their normal representation and put up a really good exhibit, with every indication of continued improvement. The Highland breed, too, was strongly represented with some excellent animals. The cross-bred cattle section provided some wonderful animals, especially the progeny of Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus, a cross



H.M. THE KING'S DEVON STEER Reserve to the Champion for the Breed Cup

which for long has been distinguished for the good animals that it produces.

In the sheep section the numbers were very much down. The championship was won by Mr. H. A. Benyon's Hampshire wether lambs. This breed is once again in form, and definitely making friends in sheep circles. The Suffolk breed was reserve on this occasion.

The pig classes, too, were not so representative or so good as in some years. It was interesting to observe that the City of London Mental Hospital won three of the four championships that mattered, and that all four major awards went to cross-bred animals that were the produce of Large and Middle White pigs. This cross is a very popular one with breeders who want that earliness of finish with a good balance of points and with the minimum of offal.

INNOVATIONS IN IMPLEMENTS

Implements of all kinds are now available for most agricultural purposes, and the Smithfield Show once again provided a very complete range. There was a time when many of these were regarded as novelties for those who could afford the unusual; but a more serious aspect presents itself in these days of labour shortage. One wonders sometimes whether this age of mechanisation is not the writing on the wall for a different type of farming, for there are still too many whose holdings are insufficiently large to justify much of the machinery that is available. There are too few of the completely mechanised farms about to be able to draw sound deductions about future developments, but to the younger generation entering agriculture, or when a sufficiency of capital obtains, the problem is one of interest and full of possibilities.

The agricultural tractor has come into its own, especially since the introduction of pneumatic equipment, and the Dunlop firm have been among the pioneers in this field. The extension to other farm machinery has made rapid strides, and the tractor-drawn pneumatic-tyred binders are an interesting development. Experience has shown that implements equipped with these tyres stand up better to the higher speeds which tractor-haulage makes

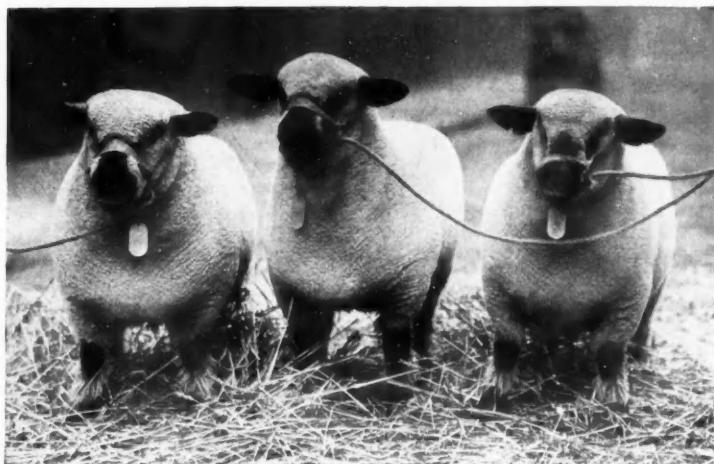
possible, while there is a reduction in the amount of wear and tear, and therefore a longer life is associated with the implements in question. What is true of binders is also true of mowing machines, carts, and other wheel equipment. Pneumatic tyres have also revolutionised the design of farm carts and have opened up a new field for the use of low-loading trailers, which are effective labour savers. The latest rubber devices for fitting to the feet of cattle and sheep for the treatment of foot troubles are also full of interest and have received the endorsement of the veterinary authorities.

Perhaps one of the really important developments

in connection with the greater use of tractors is the design of implements of adequate size to enable tractors to be utilised more economically. One of the greatest criticisms in the past has been that too many farmers have wasted power by harnessing tractors to implements designed originally for horses. This is understandable, especially as many have the horse equipment on their farms in so good a state of repair as to want to wear this out before making purchases of new equipment. One noticed that Blackstone and Co. of Stamford were showing a new tractor roller, which, with a rolling width of 16ft., enables rapid work to be done. This particular roller is in three sections, and these can be arranged in tandem for the purpose of passing through gateways and going on the road.

There were some new tractor designs on view this year. I thought the Fordson upright exhaust pipe a great improvement on the old short pipe that came out underneath the driver's seat. Then there was a new Allis-Chalmers tractor, which is claimed to be ideal for fruit plantation work. International Harvester and Massey Harris also had their latest models on view. There does appear to be a field for the more extensive use of tractor models designed for row-crop work, and most of the leading tractor manufacturers were demonstrating models suitable for this purpose. Associated Manufacturers exhibited a new tractor-drawn pick-up baler, which enables the users of combine-harvesters to bale the straw direct from the windrows.

H. G. ROBINSON.



MR. H. A. BENYON'S PEN OF THREE FAT HAMPSHIRE DOWN WETHER LAMBS. Champion pen of short wool sheep in the Show and winners of the Prince of Wales's Cup

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AT THE THEATRE

LOW JINKS AND HIGH

LONG experience of crime plays has discouraged me from wasting excessive intellectual energy on endeavouring to spot the murderer. Too often it turns out that the author has not played fair; he divulges in the third act some fact of which he has given no previous hint, and all one's cerebration has been in vain. Then crime plays are often, as intellectual exercises, spoiled for the critic by the glaring fact that some well known actor or actress of notoriously high salary, and therefore obviously allotted a part of some importance, has not made an appearance when the second interval arrives. The character played by such an artist is clearly guilty or is going to unmask the guilty party; a glance at the name of the character he or she is to play, and a little elementary deduction, solve the mystery. Throughout the first act of "I Killed the Count," Mr. Alec Coppel's new play at the Whitehall Theatre, the amateur detective within me slumbered, though the dramatic critic was kept awake by clever acting of well written parts. Throughout Act II, my suspicion about everybody deepened, and I spent the interval, as did everyone else, discussing the solution of the mystery. No one seemed to have any sensible suggestions to make about how the author's tangled skein could be unravelled, and certainly no one suggested the explanation which emerged during the engrossing third act.

The singularity of the corpse, and the interest of the play, lay in the fact that, though dead, this particular body would not lie down. The evidence before us showed convincingly that the villainous Count Mattoni (Mr. Eric Maturin) had very properly been murdered by one of the victims of his villainy, who had, indeed, confessed to the crime. Other evidence showed equally convincingly that he had been alive and was murdered later in the evening by another victim, who also confessed. Some time later still, the murdered man, as a character in the play amusingly put it, although a very patient and long-suffering murdere, decided that to be murdered twice in one

evening was really a bit too thick, and that it was high time he complained to the management of the flats or to the police. Evidence showed that he picked up the receiver of his telephone, which was put back again without a word being uttered. For the very good reason that Count Mattoni had just been murdered yet a third time by another man who, when caught in the toils of incontrovertible evidence, also confessed. All this was unfolded in Mattoni's flat the following morning during the examination, by Divisional Inspector Davidson (Mr. George Merritt) and Detective Raines (Mr. Alec Clunes), of the various residents and employees in the block of flats. In turn each of the accused was sufficiently cornered to confess. The method of confession was a "flash-back" to the previous night, in which Mr. Maturin showed us how Count Mattoni met his well-deserved death, though not his end, since in the next "flash-back" we saw him, looking surprisingly well for a dead man, succumbing at the hand of another assassin. It would be extremely unfair to resolve what must be my readers' difficulties at this point. In the theatre they are cleared up *à merveille*.

Mr. Merritt is on the stage almost the whole evening, and gives an admirable performance of the cynical policeman shocked by no irregularity in the conduct of the living but moved to moral indignation when bodies that are demonstrably dead outrage convention by moving about their flats and getting re-murdered. Each of the persons brought in for examination has been endowed by the author with a distinct and amusing individuality, and the dialogue is continuously lively. Mr. Antony Holles plays a cigar-smoking bounder repeatedly interrupted for questioning while in the midst of an important business deal. The deal must be completed before the other party to the deal leaves for Paris, and Mr. Holles' performance as the business man, alternately exultant in his own cleverness and terrified lest some lack of vigilance should betray him into some act of honesty, is one of the joys of the evening. Miss

Kathleen Harrison, with her unvarying skill, plays Polly, a mournful Cockney chambermaid determined not to be put upon, and another mournful character is Mullet, the night-porter, played by Mr. Hugh E. Wright with a delightfully mingled expression of guilt, innocence, ferret-like cunning and rabbit-like simplicity. Messrs. Anthony Bushell, Athole Stewart and Alec Clunes are other members of a strong cast. In short, Mr. Coppel has not merely achieved the feat of thinking of something novel in the way of a murder play and worked out its details very ingeniously, but has also provided an entertainment which would keep the audience amused even if it were less intrigued by his plot.

The spirit of burlesque is triumphant, not to say rampant, at the opening of the second act of "Oh! You Letty" at the Palace Theatre. Here we see a family party in full blast of chamber music—a quintette if I mistake not. But I only remember Mr. Jack Waller, heavily disguised as first fiddle, Mr. Wylie Watson as 'cello, and Mr. Sydney Howard as double bass. The fun they get out of parodying the great masters is prodigious, yet kept within reasonable bounds of verisimilitude. At the moment there is on foot a great movement for the revival of what one might call music by hand. All over the country

little misses in pigtail are making assault upon at least the slow or first movement of the Moonlight Sonata. Now for whom do these immature exponents of the pianistic art exert themselves? Is it to please their fond parents? No, the answer is that amateur executants do execution on the masterpieces purely for the benefit of their own souls. "I like to know the butcher paints, The baker rhymes for his pursuit, Candlestick-maker, much elate, Blows out his soul upon the flute" wrote Browning. Our devotees in the Palace show give a side-splitting rendering of the effect on the listener of these praiseworthy enthusiasts. The result is excruciatingly funny.

For the rest the show is well up to the Palace standard. The story is that of a maiden who suspects her elderly lover of an intrigue with a film-star—nonsense that perhaps does as well as any other. The aforementioned artists play around as amusingly as ever, and it could be wished Mr. Waller did not vanish as unobtrusively as he came. Miss Phyllis Stanley causes the right kind of agony to Miss Patricia Leonard, and both young players undeniably enchant. "Last, loneliest, loveliest, exquisite, apart," is Miss Bertha Belmore. But who would bother about the insubstantial joys of Mr. Kipling's Auckland when he can bask in the sunshine of this artist? GEORGE WARRINGTON.

GOLF BY BERNARD DARWIN

THE SELECTORS' BURDEN

I HAVE hitherto shied off the subject of the Walker Cup Selectors, partly from idleness, partly from self-consciousness in that I had a very small something to do with the choosing of them, partly from the knowledge that everybody else has had something to say of them and I am not aware of having anything very illuminating to add. Nevertheless, I have a feeling that, as Selectors must be brave men and face it, so must writers; and therefore here goes.

Everybody who is interested in the subject probably knows that there are five selectors: Mr. Willie Torrance, who may be said to represent the east of Scotland, and Mr. Dickson the west; Mr. Thirsk, who is essentially of the north of England; and Mr. Tolley and Mr. Morrison, who are more particularly of London, but generally cosmopolitan. They all combine long experience with the fact that they still play more or less regularly in amateur golf of good class. It may be that the younger school would have liked them to be a little younger, but at any rate they are not so old as to be in any sense out of touch. Their collective knowledge of present-day golfers covers a wide area, if not quite the whole area available for choice. You cannot get a quart into a pint pot, and you cannot get representatives of, let us say, the east and west of Scotland, London, the North and the Midlands in England, Ireland and Wales, with a body of five—and five is at least as large as any such committee ought to be. At any rate, this body has met with very general approval, and contains no members of committees who have been unfortunate in the past. Let us fervently hope that their time for having brickbats thrown at them will never come.

They have what ought to be an advantage in having plenty of time to consult each other and other people, and I have no doubt that they will devote a good deal of it to seeing for themselves. It is, of course, important that they should, and, what is more, that they should all see. I was once on such a committee of five, of which three of us lived in the south and two in the north. We all did our best to look in our own areas, and perhaps the three of us in the south would all agree that A was a very good player, worthy of the most serious consideration. The two in the north would, after similar research, come to the same conclusion as to B. The whole five of us had not, till the sands of time were running out, had a chance of watching both A and B. The three southerners had a great respect for the judgment of their northern colleagues, but they had an equal respect for their own, and they had actually seen their own man. No doubt the feelings of the two northerners were precisely similar as to their man. It is an almost inevitable state of things unless all the Selectors can see, if possible at the same time, the candidate in question; and this, since time is not unlimited and daily bread must be earned, is a difficult end to attain. That these five will do their best to that end I have no doubt whatever.

I am not in their confidence, and perhaps they are not yet quite in their own confidence as to how exactly they will proceed. The only facts which are public property are that they will publish a list of "possibles" some months before the event, and that they will hold some kind of trial at St. Andrews, the venue of the Walker Cup match. What form that trial will

take I do not know, and what form it ought to take is an interesting question. I have read lately suggestions from people whose opinion I respect that the best and most satisfactory test would be a score-play competition of seventy-two holes. It certainly would be sufficiently searching, and I am not one of those who wish to emphasise the difference between score play and match play. Such a test must turn out something like our best side; but would it turn out the best? I cannot quite convince myself that it would. It would do away with a good deal of whispered criticism, of talk of favouritism and so on; but that sort of talk does not deserve much attention, and the avoidance of it ought not to be an object in itself. I cannot help feeling that if such a method is to be adopted it is hardly necessary to have selectors at all, and anybody is, to be sure, entitled to hold that we should be none the worse for that. As we have them I would personally rather have their own judgment, fortified by and founded on such a test, if you will, but not bound by it. I cannot rid my mind of a fear that one of the very few players who obviously choose themselves might, through some perversity of fortune, fall by the wayside. There may not be many such obvious choices, but I will take my courage in both hands and name three—Mr. Hector Thomson, Mr. Gordon Peters, and Mr. Pennink. If they did not qualify in a scoring test I should still want to put them into the side, and should hold that, in regard to them, the test had been a failure. Yet if such a competition as we have imagined is to be only a rough guide and not an absolute entrance examination, it does lose some of its testing quality, and the result may be more criticism, for what it is worth, than ever. Here seems to be one more case in which you cannot eat your cake and have it.

A series of trial matches is, to my mind, a more likely alternative. It is not wholly satisfactory—nothing is—but it can be of considerable help. For instance, the yearly international matches between the four countries in August provide, to my mind, better evidence than does the Amateur Championship. In the Championship a promising candidate may be snuffed out in the first round, and that when no Selector is there to see how or why it happened. In the internationals he has two chances of reinstating himself, and a Selector who wants to watch him has a fair chance of doing so. This time the Selectors will at least have chosen their "possibles" long before the Championship, and I trust they will have chosen the actual team before it, too. Championships have a most unsettling effect on Selectors' minds, and that not unnaturally. They think that A is a good player and B only a rather moderate and essentially unsound one. Thereupon B promptly beats A in the first round, and, what is worse, goes on winning for several rounds more, till he reaches the last eight or even the semi-final. He looks no sounder or more impressive than before; the Selectors, in their heart of hearts, believe that he would not do it again; but the awkward fact remains that he has done it, and now the team must be chosen quickly. There is a temptation to take the way of least resistance and put in B, against their better judgment, on the ground that he has "earned it." A famous journalist, now dead, used to say that facts were a sad hindrance to reporters. Championships are likewise a sad hindrance to Selectors.

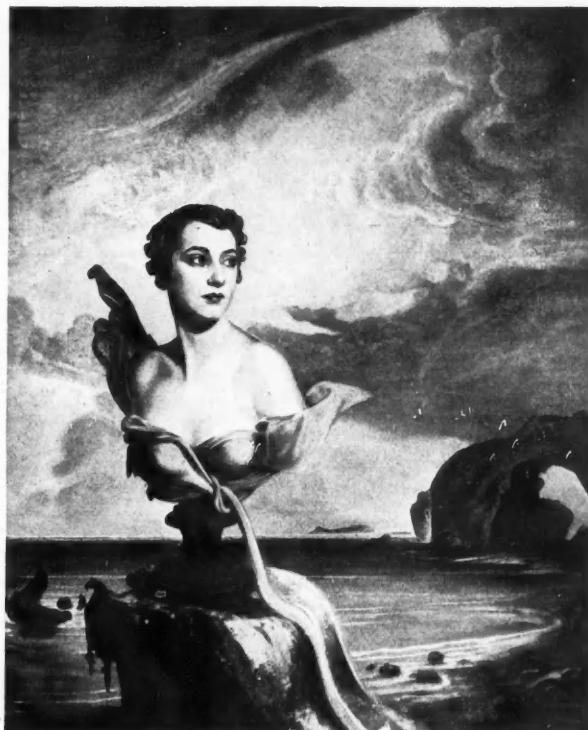
CONTEMPORARY BRITISH PAINTING

MODERNITY is slowly but surely invading London, and its effects are becoming more and more noticeable in artistic circles. When even those social ladies who have hitherto been the bulwark of the Royal Academy now prefer portraits of themselves painted with a surrealist touch, it is a sign that things are changing. William Acton's portraits, on view at the Royal Water-colour Society's Galleries in Pall Mall, are not all very successful as paintings, but the idea of presenting portraits of beautiful ladies in the form of busts standing on rocky shores or suspended from above is original and amusing, and he has certainly not failed to make the most of his sitters' alluring looks. On the whole, the drawings on the staircase are more satisfying than the paintings, perhaps because these remind one too forcibly of the familiar wax busts displayed in the windows of hairdressers. An artist with more taste, Rex Whistler for example, would have succeeded in avoiding this touch of vulgarity. As regards quality of painting, there is not much to choose between these fanciful portraits and the more traditional style of the late Mr. Philip de Laszlo, whose exhibition is still on view at the Wildenstein Gallery. Another interesting collection of portraits, mostly of theatrical and artistic personalities, has been produced by Oriel Ross, and may be seen at the Storran Gallery, 5, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly. No shading is used, only an outline, which succeeds in being both descriptive and decorative.

Surrealism is clearly in the air, and the Exhibition of Surrealist Objects at the London Gallery in Cork Street is having an enormous success after the sensational midnight opening. The object, whether found or constructed, is, on the whole, more suited for the transmission of surrealist sensations than painting proper, and it is interesting to see how many English artists have taken up the new game. Paul Nash has already expressed his views on the matter in *COUNTRY LIFE*, and his contributions are among the most significant, though not the most fantastic, in the exhibition.

At the Leicester Galleries, Wyndham Lewis is showing a collection of recent drawings and paintings. It would be difficult to class these—they are not quite surrealist, yet they are hardly abstractions, for there is a great deal of psychology mixed with his geometry. The bullet-headed robots are a satire on the human race. The paintings are not easy to apprehend, but they have a compelling force which cannot be denied. In another room, Adrian Daintrey is showing a group of landscapes and portraits. Here there is no involved abstraction, but a cheerful delight in natural beauty translated into terms of paint, with just enough simplification to make the subject paintable. "The Avenue" and "Auxerre" are among the most successful pictures.

The Goupil Gallery Salon—held, like the previous one, in the New Burlington Galleries—presents a wide range of young talent as well as examples of most of the established painters. The advantage of this *salon* is that there are no members, and the organiser is free to hang pictures on their merits, with the result that a very level standard has been reached. Paintings by Kenneth Rowntree, Stanley Spencer, Louis le Breton, Nadia Benois and John Nash stand out particularly; and there is a remarkably beautiful piece of sculpture by Barbara Austin Taylor—a severely stylised group of ballet dancers in brass.



THE DUCHESS OF WESTMINSTER
By William Acton. At the R.W.S. Galleries

STANLEY SPENCER AND SICKERT

Messrs. Tooth are holding their fourth exhibition of Contemporary British Paintings following the Flèche d'Or collection of French works. It is a selection of choice pieces rather than an attempt to represent every aspect of contemporary work. They are all pictures pleasant to live with, mostly landscapes and flower pieces, and they can be acquired on the hire purchase system. The most important paintings in the ground-floor gallery are three landscapes by Stanley Spencer, painted with sureness and delicacy and without a trace of the grotesque element which rather mars his works at the Zwemmer Gallery.

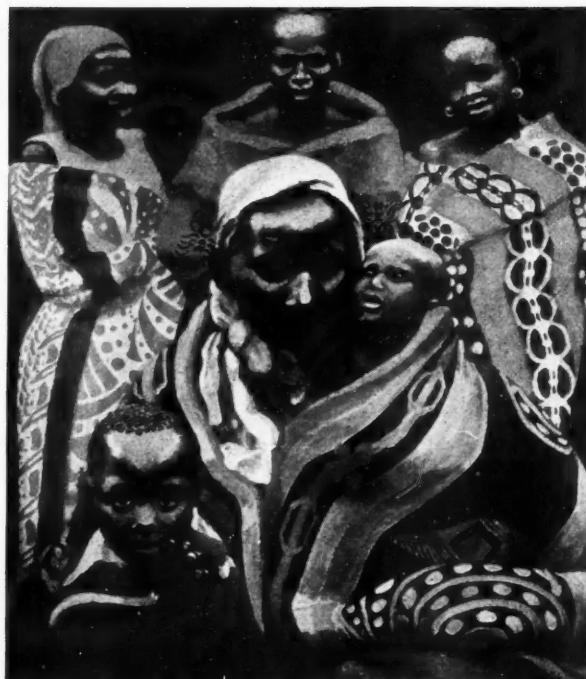
The veteran of English painting, Sickert, is absent, but an important collection of his early work is on view at the Redfern Gallery. Sordid subjects like the Camden Town Murder, and music-hall scenes are painted in low-toned harmonies, but with a force seldom paralleled to-day. At the time, coming after the sweet nostalgia of the Pre-Raphaelites, it must have seemed staggering. Few of Sickert's original associates of the Fitzroy Street days survive, but the son of one of them, Frederick Gore, is showing promising paintings at the same gallery.

PAINTINGS OF BASUTOLAND

There is an interesting group of paintings of very unusual subjects by Miss Barbara Hussey at the Cooling Galleries. The fantastic crags of the Drakensburg, rising to 10,000ft., on the borders of Natal, are almost surrealist in themselves, and their surprising nature communicates itself in Miss Hussey's presentation of the cliffs from an unfamiliar angle—from the country behind them. Her paintings of the mountainous plateau of Basutoland are probably the first exhibited in this country, if not the first ever painted. Basutoland is a native reserve under British protection, closed to white settlers, and only accessible on horseback with the knowledge and approval of the native chiefs. The Basutos are an attractive pastoral race with a well developed sense of dress. Nominally Christian, they are polygamous, when they can afford to be, in the more inaccessible areas. The outstanding painting in the collection, "Madonna and Child with St. John," was inspired by an actual Basuto family group, where the child of one wife was regarded with equal affection by the other two. The composition, based on the traditional "Holy Family" type, makes ingenious use of the bright-patterned native blankets, which take the place of figured damask and velvets. In the same exhibition are some attractive drawings and flower paintings by Mabell Doyly, and landscapes and still-lifes by Phyllis Sandeman.

BIRDS IN BLACK AND WHITE

"Fishhawk" (David Wolfe Murray) is an artist of wildfowl whose paintings have deservedly won considerable praise. His work was illustrated in this paper a year ago, and another exhibition of his paintings is now on view at Stevens and Brown's Gallery, Park Lane. "Fishhawk" is a keen observer of flight and form, so that he seems to prefer monochrome rather than the vivid colouring which Peter Scott, Harrison and other bird artists favour. In this he is more akin to Talbot Kelly, whose work was recently shown at the Sporting Gallery. "Fishhawk" has written a book on his experiences, published by Messrs. Duckworth.



BASUTO MADONNA AND CHILD, by Barbara Hussey
From the exhibition at the Cooling Galleries, 92, New Bond St.

CORRESPONDENCE

WORDSWORTH'S BIRTHPLACE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—A controversy has arisen in the Cumberland town of Cockermouth over the question of preserving the house where William Wordsworth was born in 1770. The poet's father took the house on his appointment as chief law-agent to Sir James Lowther. He and his wife died when William and his sister Dorothy, who was born in the same house, were young, and the children left Cockermouth for the guardianship of relatives. Cockermouth is not named in the poetry of Wordsworth, but the impressions of childhood were an ever-present inspiration. In the "Prelude" the impulse of Cockermouth is direct. He confessed he was "much favoured" in his birthplace; he had spent his "fair seed-time" there, and had listened to "the fairest of all rivers" blend its murmurs "with my nurse's song" and send a voice that "flowed along my dreams." The garden of the Wordsworths' house bordered on the Derwent (or rather, as Dorothy describes it, on a terrace which overlooked the river), and the music of the water never ceased to sing in Wordsworth's memory, giving him

"Amid the fretful dwellings of mankind
A foretaste, a dim earnest, of the calm
That Nature breathes among the hills and groves."

Writing in 1805, Dorothy said she could recall the house as vividly as if she had but recently left it, "though I have never seen it in its neatness, as my father and mother used to keep it, since I was just six years old." She visited the place again at the age of twenty-three, and was disappointed at the ruinous ways of time. Nobody had lived in the house for years after her father's death, till at last Lord Lonsdale—"perhaps in a whim," says Dorothy—had it repaired and put in a tenant. In Wordsworth's time the house was counted as one of the best in the town. It is to be hoped that the authorities will be overtaken by Lord Lonsdale's "whim," and save the place which first led one of our greatest poets "to the love of rivers, woods and fields." Unhappily the spirit of destruction is abroad. There is now a threat to the little town of Hawkshead, where Wordsworth spent his early schooldays.—PHILIP TOMLINSON.

[The local Wordsworth Society is trying to raise money to buy and preserve the house.—ED.]

THE STARLING AND FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—As Miss Frances Pitt says in her letter printed in your columns of December 4th, the idea that migrant birds may be the agents which bring foot-and-mouth disease to the British Isles is no new one to ornithologists. I myself have for years advanced the theory that starlings and crows are responsible for bringing the infection over from the Continent, and prophesied this autumn, on the first outbreak, that Ludham and other places near would be stricken in a week, as these were, and that it would spread south and inland, as it did. This brought me protests from the R.S.P.B. and the Association of Bird Watchers and Wardens; but I was able to assure them that nothing has been done or is contemplated by the Ministry of Agriculture in the way of indiscriminate slaughter. I myself rule out the possibility of infection through species such as redwings, fieldfares, lapwings, and golden plover.

The most that the Ministry can attempt to do next year is to secure a number of crows and starlings at our lightships, or shot directly they arrive in from sea, and have them

microscopically examined. I am quite in agreement with Miss Pitt, and have advised the Ministry that to exterminate the starlings is an utter impossibility in face of their innumerable hordes.

We know now that the "O" type of germ responsible for the present outbreak is that which has caused the foot-and-mouth disease raging on the Continent, and also that the out-

the parent quietly left, and after a very short interval a bittern again appeared on the nest. We both thought that one had darker throat stripes than the other, but I cannot prove it, for they were not visible together. I took no photographs, for we sat there quivering with excitement, awaiting the right and left that never came.

On another occasion the two parents crooned to each other in the sedge round the nest. This soft, affectionate croon, only audible at a short distance, is a most attractive sound, and is quite unlike the other notes of a bittern.—ANTHONY BUXTON.

FIREPLACES AT CORSHAM COURT

TO THE EDITOR

SIR,—In his articles on Corsham Court, Mr. Christopher Hussey referred to the very fine pierced steel grates supplied by the firm of Alexander and Shrimpton. You may be interested to hear that a recent search among documents at the Guildhall has revealed this firm as being responsible for a considerable amount of work in connection with the

building and decoration of the Mansion House from 1758 onwards. Previous to this, one Alderman William Alexander had supplied for the Mansion House stoves, iron window frames, and the railings between the stone pillars then standing in front of the building. William Alexander died in 1762, and it is not improbable that he was the father or uncle of Richard Alexander, who carried on the business in partnership with Thomas Shrimpton.

Their work for the Mansion House was not confined to stoves and grates, and one of their most important commissions was the provision of six chandeliers in 1758 for the Dancing Gallery, as the ballroom was then called, "according to Mr. Dance's particulars for fifty guineas each." Two further chandeliers for the same room were subsequently supplied, as the committee decided that six were inadequate. Another commission was for an "Iron oven and wind stove & a grate in the Servants' Hall." There are numerous payments to this firm during the next few years for miscellaneous "Braziers & Smiths" work done at the said Mansion House, amounting to something in the neighbourhood of a thousand pounds.

The chandeliers disappeared from the ballroom, presumably when the ceiling was lowered in 1842; but there is still an old wind stove in the kitchen, which may be the one they supplied.—DOROTHY N. STROUD.

THE PIPE DOES BETTER

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—The Note entitled "The Decline of the Pipe," in your December 4th issue, conveys an impression which is not borne out by the Report of the Imperial Economic Committee on which the Note is founded. It is true that the consumption of cigarette tobacco has increased while that of pipe tobacco has diminished in the period with which the Report deals. But, extraordinarily enough, pipe production during the same period has actually increased. The latest Board of Trade return on the census of production shows an increase of briar pipe production of over 12 per cent., the actual increase being from 4,980,000 to 5,592,000. My own records for the period 1934 to 1937 show an increase of over 50 per cent., and I am assured of a similar increase by pipe-makers generally. The pipe-making industry is, indeed, working up to capacity.

I do not pretend to account for the simultaneous phenomena of decreased pipe tobacco sales and increased pipe production which are both officially recorded. I merely state the fact, for which I trust you will find space in your influential journal.—ALFRED H. DUNHILL.



THE HOUSE IN COCKERMOUTH, WHERE WORDSWORTH WAS BORN

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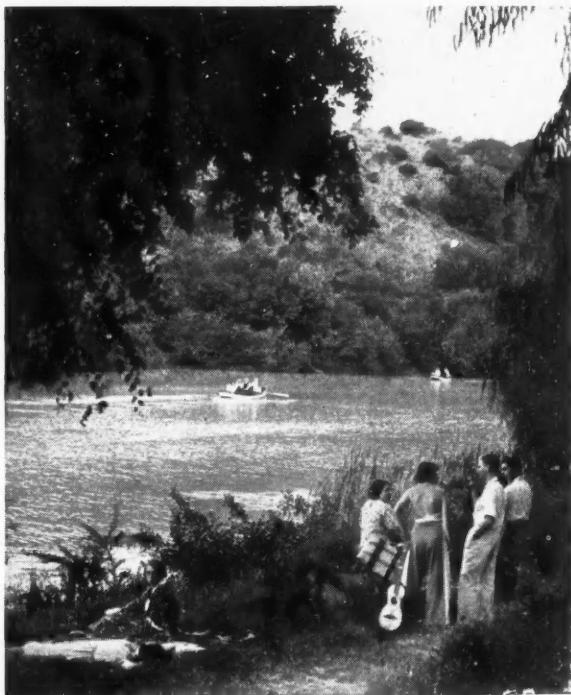
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THE METHUENS' ANCESTOR

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—One relies on the genealogical information in COUNTRY LIFE, and I must protest against the unqualified statement that the proprietors of the barony of Methven traced their descent from a man of high distinction who accompanied Queen Margaret from Hungary *circa* 1060: as to which "Burke" is ominously reticent. As I claim descent from a Scot who similarly accompanied Royalty overseas at an even earlier date, I naturally have a fellow feeling with Ananias. But I have never pretended that my ancestor was a man of high distinction; according to oral tradition he was the faithful pantry-boy.—S. H. SCOTT.

[The author of the article replies to Sir S. H. Scott's plaint: "I never pretended that the companion of Queen Margaret and ancestor of the Methuens was a man of high distinction. I said merely 'distinction,' which, though nothing is known about this shadowy and perhaps hypothetical person, is surely no more than common courtesy to an ancestor. After all, Sir S. H. Scott goes so far as to say that his ancestor was a *faithful* pantry boy! Certainly a distinction in pantry boys, at least nowadays. And if I must quibble, *pace* J. H. Round and Sir S. H. Scott, I said that 'the proprietors of the barony traced their descent' from this individual, not I, nor Burke, nor, I take it, Sir S. H. Scott."—ED.]

A DECORATIVE FUNGUS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—The fly agaric (*Amanita muscaria*), with its brilliant scarlet cap covered with white spots is the best-known of the toadstools, being common in woods in autumn, usually near birch trees. It is not surprising that its beauty has caused it to be used in pictorial decoration, just as its shape forms the basis for models of toys such as money-boxes and odd articles like pepper-boxes. Unlike most toadstools, it is poisonous, producing effects which simulate strong alcoholic intoxication. Consequently, the species is used in certain religious rites among the Korak tribes; Scandinavian tradition says that the Vikings went berserk by eating it.—J. R.

THE AUROCHS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—I was much interested in the article on the aurochs, inasmuch as I have a fine skull of the animal, which was dug out of a clay-pit some years ago. It is of immense size, both in length and weight. I do not quite agree with the writer when he says that the larger ones were smaller than a large ox of the beef-producing species of the present day. Apart from the enormous skull, measurements of bones at the Natural History Museum, London, show that the animal stood 8ft. at the shoulder, and probably weighed two or three tons.

The aurochs, or urus, was extinct in Britain long before the Roman Occupation, so that this skull is over 2,000 years old, and possibly double that age. Caesar mentions the urus as still surviving in Germany in his time, very evidently on hearsay (see Caesar's "Gallic

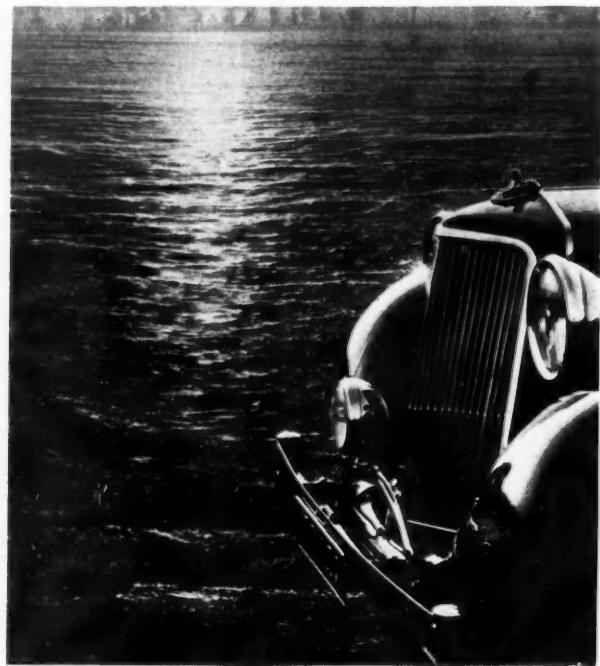
War," Vol. vi, pages 21-28). Possibly this wild ox had long been extinct there also, and was only a memory, for evidently somebody was pulling Caesar's leg, judging by the description of mythical animals found in this Hercynian Forest, such as the animal with one horn in the centre of its forehead; also the one without joints in its legs, which could not lie down, and was captured by cutting down the tree against which it slept.

The European bison, still found in small numbers, is, of course, a different animal altogether, and closely allied to the American bison.—H. W. ROBINSON.

INDUSTRIOUS INSECTS

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—An unusual phenomenon was seen and recorded by the Armstrong Siddeley staff photographer during the course of his duties in photographing cars near Coventry. In the adjacent countryside he noted a peculiar sheen lying over great stretches of field. He described it as looking like a sea of mercury as it gleamed in the sunlight. Closer examination

**A SEA OF GOSSAMER**

The industry of the thousands of small spiders can be estimated when it is stated that it was possible to lift the webs in places, like a curtain.

An interesting point is that the word "gossamer" is derived from the older form "geese-summer," which refers to St. Martin's Summer or early November, when this phenomenon was reputed to appear.—M. G.

"THE TRAGEDY OF A HEMLOCK"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Your photograph under the above heading (February 6th, 1937) prompts me to send you two photographs.

No. 1 is a eucalyptus with the tongue-twisting name of *E. Sideroxylon* roses, commonly known as the pink-flowering iron-bark, and was planted in June, 1935, when 4ins. high—now about 15ft. high, and a trunk circumference of about 10ins.

No. 2 is a hybrid Illawarra flame tree (*Sterculia hybrida*), commonly looked on as a very slow-growing tree, planted in the beginning of 1930, when a few inches high, now about 22ft. high, and a trunk circumference of 32ins.

The procedure I have adopted is to sow the seeds, and, when the seedlings are an inch or so high, pinch them out into bottomless tin cylinders. These are made by cutting strips of tin 7ins. by 5ins. or 9ins. by 6ins., and rolling them round a piece of piping about 1½ins. in diameter.

The trees are planted when a suitable size has been reached in the tin cylinders, which in course of time will rust away; or, as the tree grows and the cylinder spreads, can be removed.

The whole object is to prevent any interference with the tap root, and in my experience, over a number of years, this system has been most successful.

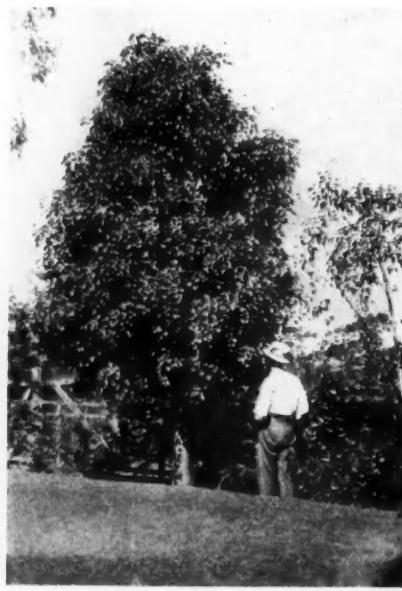
I have one of the pink-flowering iron-bark trees planted in this method just over twenty years ago, and it is now 60ft. high with a trunk circumference of 5ft.: and, incidentally, it carries a mass of pink blossom from April to October—our autumn and winter—every year.

The old idea of keeping trees in pots for three or four years, until the roots have formed a tight ball, seems to me to be entirely contrary to Nature, and it was with that in mind that I evolved the idea of bottomless tin cylinders, and of planting the little trees before the tap root extended through the bottom.

It has been most successful. I recommend this to any of your readers who are interested; and I can assure them that, so far as Australian tap-rooted trees are concerned, they simply outgrow by many feet a year the pot-bound three or four year old trees, which are handicapped from the start.—F. LYNNE ROLIN.

**A TOADSTOOL IN ITS RED CAP**

showed the "sea" to be hundreds of thousands of spider webs, and the gossamer effect as they rippled in the slight breeze was rather weird. The photograph was a difficult one to obtain, as the webs could only be seen when one looked directly towards the sun.

**A FLAME TREE AFTER SEVEN****FIFTEEN FEET IN TWO YEARS**

This England . . .



Sussex Downs — near Petworth



OF all good trees the oak is nearest to our hearts. Nor is this sentimental, though oak has framed our homes for centuries, and much oak of the Sussex breed went to "the wooden walls of England" that kept those homes inviolate. Nay, rather is it sympathy with that slow coming to maturity that is the English test of worth. Three hundred years to grow, three hundred to mature, and as many more to die, runs the lore of the oak. That is a very English thing, like bowling-turf and beer. Good beer comes slowly to maturity (in oaken barrels, too). And when such beer is really brewed in the ancient way, you have your Worthington—most sympathetic of them all!

NEWMARKET DECEMBER SALES

A RISING MARKET

THE mentality—or call it doggedness—of the bloodstock breeding world is one of those psychological make-ups that are very difficult, if not impossible, to understand. For the opening day of the annual December Sales at the Park Paddocks in Newmarket, the weather could be designated by no other word than vile. The surrounding country was clothed in a seasonal but still very unfortunate visitation of snow. There was a doubt as to the presence or absence of fog. Fortunately, there was no frost on the roads. Under these weather conditions a huge attendance was present when Mr. Gerald Deane opened the first session of the five days' sales soon after 11 a.m. Nearly two hundred lots came under the hammer. The last lot was knocked down just before 6 p.m. Mr. Deane and his partner, Mr. Needham, had been in the box throughout the day. As I remarked, the weather was the very reverse of good. The result of the day's auction showed an increase of 6,000gs. on the total made on the same day last year.

Mind you, it was an up-and-down market. Mr. Fox-Carlyon, who owns that promising stallion, Canon Law, sold two mares early on. One of these was Celeste, a young daughter of Friar Marcus that descends from Sceptre. Mr. Fox-Carlyon paid 970 guineas for her at the December Sales of 1934. This year she—obviously carrying a foal by Canon Law—fell to Mr. Frank Butters for 450gs.; and her foal—a filly by Canon Law—went to Mr. J. J. Parkinson, the well known Curragh trainer, for 230 guineas. Mr. Fox-Carlyon's other lot was that fast mare, Nust. She cost him 900gs. three years back. At this sale Mr. Alan Baker obtained her for 380gs., and Mr. Parkinson took the filly foal she had at foot for 95gs. Actually the only mare to make good money was Plain Anne. A daughter of Warden of the Marches that, like Miss Elegance, was from Anne of Brittany, she appeared in foal to the Derby and St. Leger winner, Windsor Lad. Mr. Ted Leader, Miss Dorothy Paget's stud manager, Mr. Purcell, and the British Bloodstock Agency were in the market for her. Mr. Ted Leader obtained her with a bid of 1,400gs. Mid-Day Sun's dam, Bridge of Allan, who may or may not be in foal to the dual Ascot Gold Cup winner, Trimdon, did not make her reserve. The highest bid was one of 3,300gs. A like fate befell Princess Galahad, the dam of the Cambridgeshire winner, Artist's Prince. For her 900gs. was the highest bid. Artist's Proof was Artist's Prince's sire. Princess Galahad is in foal to him again. Naturally, there was no sale. Big prices began when the sale of the horses in training started. These opened badly, as Arthingworth, a half-brother to Quashed, Thankerton and Versicle, which cost 3,800gs. as a yearling, was sold to Mr. Melton Vasey for 220gs. Farsi, a Gainsborough gelding that had made only 170gs. in his younger days, changed the outlook. Captain Spooner bought him for 1,800gs. Just possibly he will carry Miss Dorothy Paget's colours with success over fences. Almost directly after him, Blandford's son Midstream came into the ring. Both the agencies—Hailey's and the British Bloodstock—had commissions to execute. That of Hailey's Agency, on behalf of an Australian client, was successful. The sum paid was 3,500gs. The Jermyn Street firm were again in the market for Tetratema's granddaughter, Time Marches On, and bought her for 600gs. The British Bloodstock Agency, not to be outdone, obtained First Cast, a chestnut daughter of Salmon Trout that comes from a half-sister to Mumtaz Mahal, for 880gs. Four thousand five hundred guineas was offered for the Royal Hunt Cup winner Fairplay, who had cost 540gs. in his younger days, but was refused, as was an offer of 930gs. for the young Portlaw filly Portworth. Her price as a foal was 170gs. As I remarked, it was a day of ups and downs.

Tuesday's auction promised better. The weather showed a slight improvement. Still more people of the real-buyer type were in evidence. Foreigners were there in force. Captain Arthur FitzGerald of Faringdon, who was buying for the Hungarian Government, was actually the purchaser of the highest-priced lot sold, Prince Odescalchi, a direct representative of Hungary; Messrs. Gallini and Tesio from Italy, and Baron Faille d' Huysse, the President of the Belgian Jockey Club, were always on the *qui vive* for anything that might improve the bloodstock of their respective countries. Captain FitzGerald's purchase was the six year old mare, Tam Dao. Claiming the Two Thousand Guineas winner, Clarissimus as her sire, she is of the best French



THE EARL OF DERBY AND THE HON.
MRS. LAMBTON AT THE NEWMARKET
BLOODSTOCK SALES

line of dam blood, and is in foal to Easton. Captain FitzGerald had Brigadier-General Turner in opposition to him, but at 2,100gs. he was eventually returned as the purchaser. Prince Odescalchi's commitments covered a wide range. First he bought the twelve year old mare, Alvista, for 150gs. Encouraged by this, he went to 800gs. for Contretemps, a five year old mare by Press Gang out of the Oaks winner, Love in Idleness, that appears to be in foal to the Two Thousand Guineas winner, Flamingo. His next was Lady Phalaris. A three-parts sister to the Two Thousand Guineas winner, Colombo, by Phalaris from Lady Nairne, a descendant of Montem, Lady Phalaris has been successfully mated with the Grand Prix de Paris winner, Cappiello. Prince Odescalchi bought her for 1,000gs. A further buy for this representative of Hungary was Pretty Penny, a young mare of Lord Astor lineage that is by Grand Parade out of S.P., a half-sister to Pennycomequick by the St. Leger winner, Swynford, from a mare that goes back to Conjure, a foundation mare of the Cliveden Stud. Five hundred guineas was the price paid, and at that she was a bargain purchase. Last of Prince Odescalchi's was Field Flower. A daughter of the Ascot Gold Cup winner, Bosworth, and three years of age, Field Flower, like the Ascot Gold Vase winner, Gainslaw, is out of Gainsborough's daughter, Margaret Burr. The price was 360gs. Captain Gallina started the list for export to Italy with the Gay Crusader mare, Lilamade, which was one of those sent up by the Worksop Manor Stud.

Price was 440gs. At his next attempt Captain Gallina had to give way to his fellow-countryman, Captain Tesio. Both were in the market for the Irish Oaks winner, Santaria, who is carrying a foal by Tai-Yang. Captain Tesio was the buyer with a bid of 1,500gs. Captain Gallina was not long in making up for this. Press Gang's own-sister Cherisette was listed by Sir Laurence Philipps. Her sire, Hurry On, won the St. Leger. Her dam, Fifinella, won the Derby and the Oaks. She is in foal to the Two Thousand Guineas winner, Flamingo. Captain Gallina's successful bid of 500gs. was not too much. The purchases for Belgium were of smaller value. The British Bloodstock Agency were heavy buyers. Most important was their purchase of Gainsborough's daughter, Gaillonelle. For her they gave 1,800gs. as a mate for Donatello. Only other sensation was the sale of Mahmoud's half-brother, Pherozshah, to Major Rowley. A better horse than his more illustrious relative, he made but 700gs. A future at the stud is assured for him.

In some ways the sale on Wednesday was a disappointment. Lieutenant-Colonel Giles Loder's mares Queen Christina and Flinders both fetched comparatively big prices, but in a better market would have made more. Queen Christina, who is by Buchan out of Fearless Fox's dam, Molly Adare, got Lord Glanely, Lady Yule's manager (Mr. Bishop) and Mr. Matthew Peacock, the well known Middleham trainer, in opposition. At the finish of the competition, Mr. Peacock was the successful bidder, and at 5,000gs. obtained Queen Christina for the Sledmere Stud. Flinders, for some inexplicable reason, created even more competition. By Tetratema and from Arabella's dam, Polly Flinders, who came from the great mare Pretty Polly, she is in foal to Easton. Lord Furness of the Gilltown Stud, Captain Farr of Worksop Manor, Mr. Purcell (representing the Hon. Miss Dorothy Paget) and Mr. Bishop, bidding for Lady Yule, were the chief contestants. Eventually Lord Furness was announced as the buyer. Both in foal—Queen Christina to Hyperion, and Flinders to Easton—and sold to studs to breed for the Doncaster auction, it will be interesting to see what their produce make in that northern city as yearlings in 1939.

Apart from these two sales the market was ruled by the foreign buyers. On the day, Captain Tesio from Italy replaced the Prince Odescalchi of the Tuesday. M. Szuch of Poland and Baron de Nescon took their fair share of the lots offered. Vicomte Bocarme was another buyer, and further "foreigners" that made themselves known were M. V. Crespi and M. Pella Grina, who are fellow-countrymen of Captain Tesio. Actually the most important purchase for abroad was that of Gerrard's Cross. Listed by Lord Astor and from his Cliveden Stud, this mare is by Teddy out of Never Cross, a granddaughter of the Oaks winner, Sunny Jane. Captain Tesio bought her for export to Italy for 3,500gs. Lady Yule's manager, Mr. Bishop, was the under-bidder.



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Thursday's auction saw the commencement of the decline. An uninteresting day it was relieved by very occasional bright intervals. Lady Yule's manager, Mr. Bishop; Mr. Purcell, who holds a like position with Miss Dorothy Paget; Mr. Owen Ryan, who superintends the interests of Major Holliday of the Cleaboy Stud; and the Hon. George Lambton were in competition for the Chester Cup winner Cho-sen. By Prince Galahad from Chaucer's Choice, the dam also of Amoya, she has been successfully mated with the "triple-crown" winner, Gainsborough. Her sale price was 3,300gs. Her buyer was Mr. Lambton. She was sent up from the Landwade Stud. Next lot from this establishment was Breakaway, a three year old daughter of Wireaway, a descendant of Dame d'Or. Bidding for her was confined to foreigners. Prince Odescalchi from Hungary, and the Italian buyers, M. Pellagrini, Captain Gallina and M. Crespi were all in the market. M. Crespi made the successful bid of 1,700gs. The only other real sensation was the sale of Rosegain. A three-parts sister to Chumleigh, by the "triple-crown" winner Gainsborough, out of the Oaks winner, Rose of England, she is believed to be in foal to Blandford's son, Royal Dancer. The

first bid for her was one of 1,500gs. and from that she went to 4,200gs. before being sold to Lady Yule, whose manager, Mr. Bishop, outstayed Major Booth, who was representing Lady James Douglas and Mr. Eliot Cohen of the Woodhay Stud where Rameses II and Hairan stand as stallions.

The last day was the coldest of the week and was from a selling point the worst. Hyndford Bridge, an own-sister to Portlaw, by Beresford out of Portree that won the Prince of Wales's Plate at York and was second to Misa in the One Thousand Guineas, made the top price. Mr. Eliot Cohen; Purcell, who manages for Miss Dorothy Paget; the Hon. R. F. Watson; and Mr. Owen Ryan, were bidders for her, and at 2,400gs. she was sold to Mr. Ryan, who was buying for Major Holliday of the Cleaboy Stud.

Though the total made on the week showed a big drop on last year, it was, nevertheless, a good sale. Mr. Gerald Deane and Mr. Needham sold throughout, and must be congratulated, since—as I should imagine, for the first time in the history of Tattersall's—they were well ahead of time throughout the sale. Everything went without a hitch. The curtain has fallen on another December Sales.

ROYSTON.

THE ESTATE MARKET

GOOD SHOOTING AND FISHING

LORD CHICHESTER intends to let Stanmer Park, for five years, with the shooting over 3,000 acres. The agents are Messrs. Curtis and Henson. Anyone who has been to Stanmer Park will not be surprised that, in view of the magnificence of the eighteenth-century furniture the mansion is to be let furnished. That furniture provided material for an illustrated article in *COUNTRY LIFE* in January, 1932. Nicholas Du Bois, "Surveyor to his Majesty's Works," was the architect. The accounts for the cost of the building have been kept. They show that the building, begun in 1722 and finished five years later, cost £14,200, inclusive of laying out the grounds and some small sums for work in connection with a farmhouse. According to the illustrated special article in *COUNTRY LIFE* (January 2nd, 1932), by Mr. Arthur Oswald, Du Bois was paid £738 as fees. He seems to have begun his career as an officer in the Corps of Engineers, and he translated, and issued in 1715, a version of Palladio's "Treatise on Architecture." The mansion, built for Henry Pelham, uncle of the first Earl of Chichester, is midway between Lewes and Brighton, in a sheltered hollow of the Downs. During the construction Henry Pelham died, and the work was completed to the order of his brother Thomas. The house is but little changed externally from the time that the builders left it. The building accounts are most interesting: for example, they name many of the actual craftsmen, and give details of the cost of such items as £28 for a splendid marble chimneypiece. That chimneypiece, by the way, no longer adorns the room wherein it was first placed.

Tyneham, on the Dorset coast, is to be let, furnished, by Messrs. Hampton and Sons. This Elizabethan manor house was built in 1583, and portions of an older residence remain, dating from the fourteenth century.

COUNTRY HOUSES SOLD

RECENT sales by Messrs. Hampton and Sons include Goodtrees, Cowden, between Tunbridge Wells and East Grinstead, a remodelled seventeenth-century farmhouse, with woodlands extending to 23 acres (with Messrs. F. D. Ibbetts, Moseley, Card and Co.); Catsfield Manor, near Battle, a freehold period residence and 45 acres; houses in Burghley Road, on Wimbledon House estate, and Murray Road, a stone's throw from the Common; and, for Major Beaumont Thomas, Said House, Chiswick Mall; the fine old freehold with its riverside garden, for some time the residence of Sir Nigel Playfair.

Delrow House, Aldenham, has been sold by Messrs. Hampton and Sons and Messrs. George Trollope and Sons. The estate includes seven cottages and 70 acres close to Watford by-pass.

Sales by Messrs. Alfred J. Burrows, Clements, Winch and Sons include North Court, Chilham, a fruit farm of 115 acres; Cork Farm, Chilham, 95 acres (with Messrs. Honeyball and Finn); Hartlands Farm, Betherden, 88 acres; and Grindlewald, Churt (with Messrs. C. Bridger and Son).

Sussex offers by Messrs. Hampton and Sons include Ladymede, East Harting, 120 acres, in glorious surroundings with an unsurpassed view of the South Downs. The sixteenth-century house, beautifully embellished, contains

oak panelling. There are a secondary residence and first-class farm with model buildings, and the entirety is offered at less than half its cost. Clayhills, Ringmer, sold by Messrs. Martin and Gorringe and Messrs. Knight Frank and Rutley, is a property of 102 acres and includes a restored Tudor farmhouse twelve miles from Brighton.

SALE OF 60,000 ACRES

MRS. C. S. CLARKE'S sale of 60,000 acres in Sutherlandshire has been effected by Messrs. John D. Wood and Co., to a client of Messrs. E. Paton and Son, who acquires almost 100 square miles for private enjoyment. Kinloch, Ben Loyal and Ribigill, the properties in question, include two mountains, Ben Loyal (2,500ft.) and Ben Hope (3,000ft.), and eight miles of fishing in the Kinloch and Strathmore. The game bags average 1,500 brace of grouse and forty-five stags.

Wide Woods, Ewhurst, has been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. Harrods Estate Offices. This property of 75 acres is largely woodland, but the house is by no means shut in by woods.

A nice freehold property in the Wye Valley district, Fernside, Whitebrook, near Monmouth, is to be sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, with Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. This property of 5 acres is just off the Wye Valley, and near the Forest of Dean, the Black Mountains and Severn Valley. There is trout fishing on the property, in a tributary of the Wye and in the Monnow. Fernside was at one time a trout farm, and the breeding banks and pools are in good condition and only need re-stocking. Salmon fishing can be had in the Wye, a mile away, and there are hunting with three packs, and golf at Monmouth, Ross and Chepstow.

REMARKABLE SEASIDE MANSION

ACTING for the executors of Mrs. M. Z. Walker Munro, Messrs. Fox and Sons and Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley will submit to auction the magnificent freehold residence, known as The White House, Milford-on-Sea. The property is exceptional, immediately facing the Needles, and noted landmark. It possesses 800ft. of water frontage to the Channel, and has a private embankment and promenade. The residence, designed and constructed at enormous cost, is in excellent repair. In addition to the house are large bathing pavilions, and grounds of 6 acres.

Mr. B. A. F. Fletcher has decided to sell his property in Upton, known as Corderoy, through Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock. Recent sales by the firm in Berkshire include Thorpe Farmhouse, Aston Tirrold; The Old House, Northcourt, near Abingdon; The Old Mill and The Homestead, Blewbury.

Recent transactions by Messrs. Charles J. Parris include the sale of Henley Farm and Coombehurst, Frant; Lodgelands Farm, Rotherfield (with Messrs. Watson and Sons); Renby Farm, Eridge, 176 acres; The Lake House, Eridge, and 49 acres (Messrs. Langridge and Freeman for the purchaser); Mon Abri, Crowborough (with Messrs. Oakden and Co.); and Elmsleigh, Crowborough, overlooking Ashdown Forest (with Messrs. Constable and Maude). The Hamsell estate, between Eridge and Crowborough, was recently purchased on

behalf of a client by Messrs. Charles J. Parris, from the Goldsmiths Company, and parts are for re-sale.

CHOICE SPORTING OFFERS

THE DUKE OF GRAFTON has ordered Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff to let Bradfield Hall, near Bury St. Edmunds, furnished or unfurnished, and 1,000 acres of shooting. The Hall, standing in a beautiful park, has grounds of 8 acres, and 10 acres of grassland can be had, if required. The firm is instructed by Mrs. Ismay to let, for the coming season, what is reputed to be the best all-round fishing in the west of Ireland, with a luxurious house, the Costelloe Lodge and Fishery. From 2,500 to 3,500 sea trout are caught, as well as salmon, and there is fishing in lochs and miles of both banks of the river. The Lodge has fourteen bedrooms and three bathrooms, and it is close to the shore.

The sale, by private treaty, is reported of 160 acres, part of Montreal Park, Sevenoaks. The land, which has been sold for residential development, comprised a large portion of the parkland surrounding the recently demolished mansion built about 1770 by Sir Jeffery Amherst, who re-named the estate after his return from Canada. Messrs. Wootton and Sons effected the sale.

Josselyns, Little Horsham, is for sale by Messrs. C. M. Stanford and Son. It is in Constable's country, in the Stour Valley. This fifteenth-century half-timbered residence is described and illustrated in Vol. III of the Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments in Essex, and it has been the subject of an article in *COUNTRY LIFE*. The farm and lands amount in all to 100 acres, 12 of which are woodland and famous fox coverts; and the house is well modernised residentially.

RUMANIAN LEGATION

No. 1, BELGRAVE SQUARE, has been sold to the Rumanian Legation. The mansion, containing about thirty rooms, occupies a corner site on the north-east of the Square. Mme. Koch de Gooreynd formerly occupied the mansion, which has been vacant a long while. The sale was effected through Messrs. John D. Wood and Co.

In the report in our issue of December 4th of the sale of Garrick's Villa by Messrs. Ralph Pay and Taylor, it was referred to as "at Hampton Wick." It is, of course, at Hampton, Middlesex, some miles away.

Forsinard, in Sutherland, to be sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, extends to 37,200 acres, and includes Forsinard Lodge, grouse shooting and stalking, and exclusive rights to those parts of the Halladale and Dyke which pass through the estate. The fishing in the Halladale is let in two beats, and 100 salmon can be caught; there are salmon in the Dyke fishings.

QUEENS OF THE MANOR

AGEORGIAN house at King's Langley is to be sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley having instructions to offer Haverfield and its fine old gardens. King's Langley might more appropriately have been called "Queens' Langley," for in little over 250 years seven queens held the manor. The first was Eleanor of Provence, wife of Henry III; the last, Jane Seymour. ARBITER.



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THE ROAD TESTING OF CARS

I HAVE been attempting to find a really satisfactory compromise in the way of setting out road tests of current car models for readers of COUNTRY LIFE for some years, the problem being to find a half-way house between the purely technical, and the material which would be expected to interest the average motorist who has very little technical knowledge.

For this reason I have gradually tended to segregate the information which I have gleaned, from actual experience on my test route, into two separate sections. The general article is intended for the average motorist with but little technical knowledge, and deals primarily with the more obvious aspects of performance, while stressing impressions as to comfort, visibility and other general matters, which the car has happened to make on me.

The semi-technical information with the specification of the power unit and chassis is confined to a separate section, which will in future be slightly altered for the purpose of simplicity. It is, of course, difficult to know where to stop when it comes to giving technical information, and on my test, particularly where the Tapley meter is concerned, I frequently take a good deal of information, such as rolling resistance on the level, which I do not publish, as I do not think they are of any value to the ordinary motorist.

So far as the technical information is concerned, the performance figures are divided into two sections, one of which is occupied by results obtained from the Tapley performance meter and the other from speedometer and stop-watch.

The Tapley performance meter consists, in simple language, of a pendulum, which, of course, always tends to point to the centre of the earth, and can only be deflected from this by a force acting on it. This meter will, therefore, when placed on a moving vehicle, indicate acceleration in pounds per ton of the vehicle to which it is fixed. In actual practice the pendulum is in a sealed chamber containing a fluid to damp its too violent motions, and, being magnetised, through a suitable mechanism its motions are recorded on a double scale which can easily be read by the observer. One side of the scale window is graduated in pounds per ton either for acceleration or retardation, while the other actually shows the gradient which the car would climb at that reading at a constant speed. So far as the ordinary motorist is concerned with these tests, this is the chief use to which this instrument can

be put, as it shows on each gear the steepness of hill which the car would climb steadily without losing speed. I must emphasise here that this gradient figure represents the steepest gradient which that car will climb on that gear at a steady speed; but, of course, much steeper gradients can be rushed.

Acceleration can also be checked with the performance meter and many other things, while, in addition, it serves as a useful check to speedometers. In addition to the performance meter I use a Ferodo Tapley brake meter, which is an instrument working on the same principle, which in the illustration is shown attached to the running board of a car, but can sometimes be put on the instrument panel or other convenient place. This can be made to lock itself in the maximum position, and, by means of simple calculation, stopping distances from various speeds can be gauged. For years I used various other types of meter, consisting of balls running up an incline, etc., and also produced strange-looking devices for measuring the distance on the road from the point where the brakes were applied to the point where the car stopped; but I have found this Ferodo Tapley meter to be the most satisfactory and accurate method. It is open to one error, which is, however, slight in the case of ordinary brakes, but more serious in the case of brakes with a self-wrapping action where the braking is inclined to be very fierce just before the vehicle comes to rest. This is that it only shows the maximum braking possible at any given time and does not give a mean of the braking effort from the point of application to the point of stopping. Generally speaking, however, it is the most satisfactory method I know.

As regards the acceleration figures given by stop-watch and speedometer, these are only taken after the speedometer has been carefully checked through its range. The days of fabulously inaccurate speedometers seem, thank heaven, to be things of the past, though it is still rare to find an instrument accurate right through its range. Another point is that a speedometer that is



TWO INSTRUMENTS USED IN "COUNTRY LIFE" CAR TESTS

On the left is the Tapley performance meter fixed to the instrument board of a Talbot Ten. It will show the maximum gradient that the car will climb at a steady speed on each gear and can tell the driver a great many other things. On the right is the Ferodo Tapley brake meter fixed to the running board of the same car which shows the stopping distance in feet from various speeds

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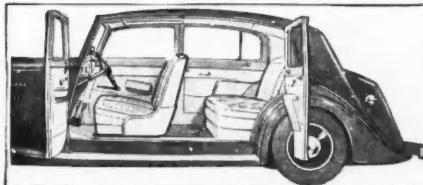
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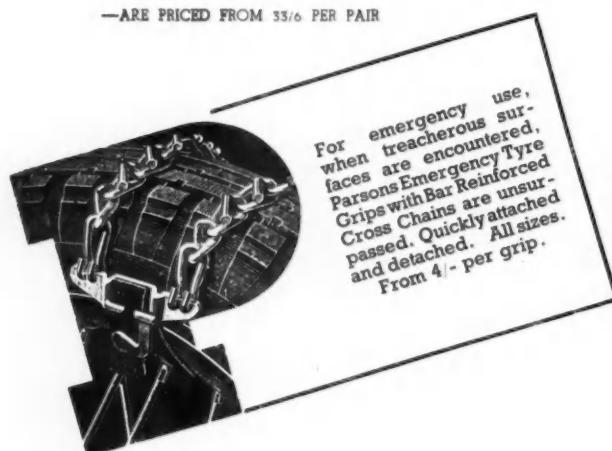


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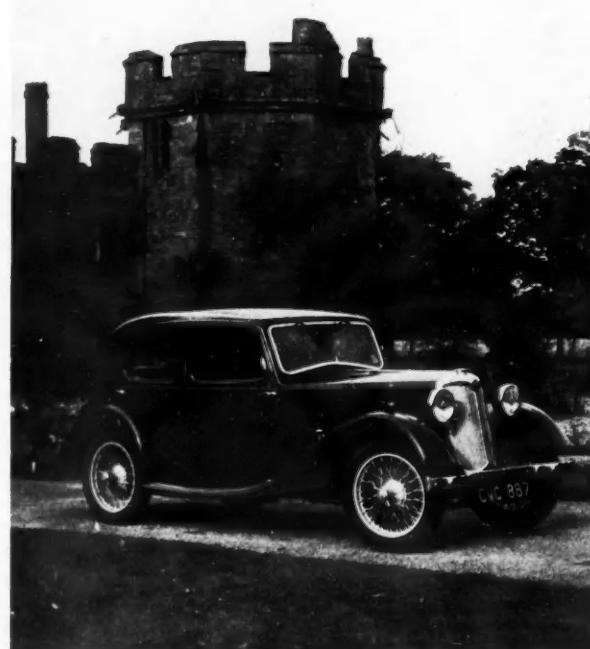
accurate at one speed may be very inaccurate at another. In most cases speedometers are fast, and it is only very occasionally that I have come across an instrument that has been slow.

Maximum speed is not really a figure which is of much use to the motorist to-day, as acceleration is much more important, particularly acceleration between 30 and 50 m.p.h.; but I find there is still a general desire to have a maximum figure, so I give it. It is obtained by timing over a measured distance, and if necessary, owing to weather conditions, the runs are made in both directions and the mean taken. Maximum speed is, perhaps, most useful as giving a clue to the cruising speed, which is generally about 70 per cent. of the maximum figure. In addition, I generally give the time taken to cover a quarter of a mile from rest.

BRITISH CARS OVERSEAS

THE export trade in motor cars from this country is certainly booming at the present time, and many firms report astonishing increases during the last few months. Messrs. Rootes, Limited, world exporters of Humber, Hillman and Talbot cars in addition to Commer and Karrier commercial vehicles, report excellent progress in the first quarter, consisting of August, September and October, of the present season.

Export orders received amount to 54.9 per cent. of the total for the entire twelve months of last season, while actual



ONE OF THE NEW RILEY VICTOR SALOONS STANDING OUTSIDE MAXSTOKE CASTLE. With 1½ litre engine and dual overdrive transmission it costs £299

shipments to overseas countries showed an increase of 315 per cent. The Hillman Minx orders, for instance, were up by 53.5 per cent., while Humber orders from Australia were three times greater than for the corresponding period of the previous season. The Hillman Minx, which is always a best seller in Australia, was up by 75.8 per cent. Business in the Argentine showed such an increase that last year's figures for the corresponding period have been more than doubled; while in India, Commer business has more than doubled.

The Standard Company also report that their overseas sales expanded enormously, and during the 1936-37 season increased by as much as 56.5 per cent. over the preceding period. This new high level was obtained despite the cessation of business owing to hostilities in Spain, the Far East, and certain Spanish possessions, territories that had been taking many hundreds of Standard cars. Big increases were made in Australia, New Zealand, India, Ceylon, Dutch East Indies, etc., and new markets were opened in British Columbia, Lithuania and Nyasaland. The demand was mainly for cars up to 12 h.p., which proves that there is a world-wide sale for smaller cars of proved quality and of British manufacture.

"THE ROMANCE OF MOTOR RACING"

THERE is no one who is better equipped to write on the Romance of Motor Racing than Sir Malcolm Campbell, and his new book with that title (Hutchinson, 10s. 6d.) not only describes the making of a racing driver and deals with the technical problems with which he is confronted, but, in addition, gives some extremely interesting history and speculation on the world's land speed record which Sir Malcolm held until recently.

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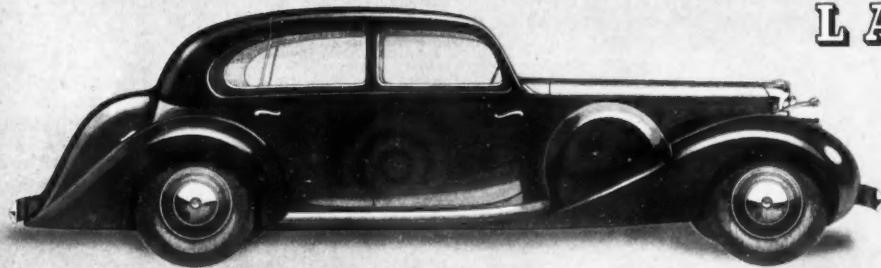
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THE GREEK THEATRE AT TAORMINA, LOOKING TOWARDS MOUNT ETNA

SICILY is unique. This queen among islands has a charm of its own that cannot be included in the usual formulae of admiration. Its varied history, both legendary and authentic, its romantic myths, the characters of its people, and, above all, its splendid climate and unrivalled beauty, attract not only the class who ask to be amused and entertained, but also those who go abroad to see fresh scenes and not merely a reproduction of English life under more genial skies. When in Sicily it is almost impossible to refrain from delving into the history and antiquity of the island, which has been "colonised" by Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Saracens, Normans and Italians, all of whom have left their marks in the art and architecture of the island and in the temperament of the people.

PALERMO, AGRIGENTO AND SYRACUSE

Palermo is a most interesting city; at first sight it seems typically Italian, but suddenly one is confronted by pure Norman architecture, Greek mosaics of amazing beauty, and domes of Arab construction. To the west of the city lies the beautiful Parco Favorita (where the Tennis Club is situated), and beyond is Mondello, the "lido" of Palermo, where bathing is pleasant even in winter, and where there is a fine golf course. During the winter season regattas are held in the magnificent bay. Visitors to Palermo usually make it a centre from which to see the beautiful Benedictine monastery at Monreale, the ruined Greek temples of Segesta, and the beautiful Norman cathedral at Cefalù. In order to appreciate the fact that Sicily was once almost as Greek as Greece itself, it is necessary to stay a few days at Agrigento, where the temples which crown the hill-tops rival in magnificence the Acropolis at Athens. Syracuse is a busy seaport, but it is also teeming with remains of classic and archaeological interest; it is here especially that some knowledge of ancient history and mythology are invaluable in order to appreciate more fully the life of the city during its prime.

TAORMINA

Taormina is a resort where one is happy doing nothing, but where there is plenty to be done. Perched on a rocky cliff 600ft. above sea level, it commands some of the finest views in Europe—some

say in the world; Etna, towering aloft in the west, raises Taormina above all ordinary loveliness—a place of dreams and enchantment. During the winter and spring seasons there is tennis, boating, sea and sun bathing, and dancing. Where in Europe is it possible to enjoy sea-bathing or indulge in winter sports, according to inclination? This surprising combination can be had by visitors to Taormina, for a road has recently been built up the slopes of Etna to an altitude of over 6,000ft.

Although a great number of interesting places in the island can be visited from the centres mentioned above, it is not possible to obtain an intimate knowledge of Sicily and the Sicilian people unless a few days are spent at the lesser-known towns. In all parts there are walls, tombs, temples, churches, theatres, bridges, aqueducts, palaces, castles, fountains, and other remains

of interest. Enna, for example, was the most important centre of worship of Ceres. Practically every village has its own hand-craft—embroidery, lace, ceramics, hammered iron, etc. The busy town of Catania, the native town of Bellini, has a particular interest, for it has many examples of Norman and baroque architecture.

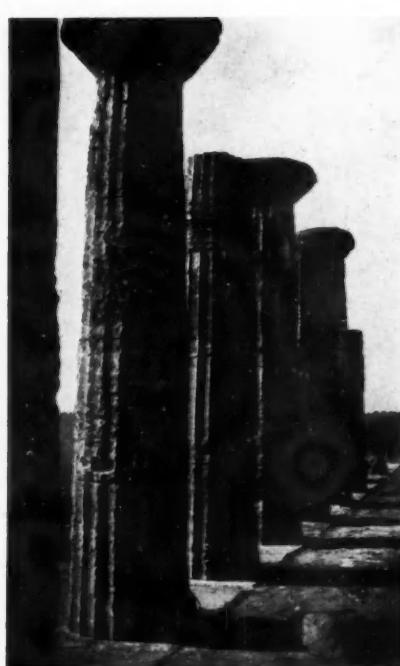
THE JOURNEY—BY SEA OR RAIL

The traveller from England has a choice of two ways of proceeding to Sicily—overland by rail to Naples (boat Naples-Palermo) or to Messina (crossing by train-ferry from the mainland); or, alternatively, by sea all the way to Naples. The latter course will appeal particularly to the leisured traveller; but even those who have but a month or six weeks to spare will find that, by availing themselves of the interchange arrangements which exist between the Orient and the N.Y.K. Lines to Naples, and various other companies having services to and from Genoa and Marseilles, it is frequently possible to arrange outward and homeward sailings within the period of a limited holiday. But whereas the voyage by sea to Naples occupies eight days, the overland journey from London to Taormina, for example, can be accomplished in forty-eight hours.

Whether one travels by rail or by boat (or one way overland and one way by sea), the Italian State Railways grant 50 per cent. reduction on return tickets from frontier stations or seaports to Sicily, and tourists have the additional privilege of booking local tickets from point to point on the island at half fare.

TOURING THE ISLAND

Although it is possible to visit most of the interesting places in Sicily by rail, a better way of seeing the island is to travel by the luxurious motor-coach services that encircle the island; from Palermo they proceed *via* Segesta and Selinunte to Agrigento, thence *via* Caltanissetta and Enna to Syracuse, along the coast (a marvellous run) to Catania and Taormina, and back to Palermo *via* Cefalù. The whole tour can be done in four days, but travellers usually spend some time at centres such as Agrigento, Syracuse and Taormina. Although Palermo is the actual starting-point, the journey may be begun and terminated at other places on the circular route. The principal roads, both on the mainland and in Sicily, are fine thoroughfares.



THE TEMPLE OF HERCULES AT AGRIGENTO

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In view of the fact that there will be 23 days' shooting, the cost of the cruise is cheap—cheaper than a Pheasant-shoot in England.

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BOOKS FOR THE GARDENER

WHAT Mr. W. J. Bean and Reginald Farrer have already done for trees and shrubs and alpines respectively, Colonel Grey, who is well known in horticultural circles as the owner of the Hockley Edge gardens, has now attempted to do for bulbous plants, and, judging by the volume under review—"Hardy Bulbs, Vol. I, Iridaceæ," by Colonel C. H. Grey, D.S.O. (Williams and Norgate, 36s.)—the first of three which will form the complete book, he will produce a work of almost comparable excellence to those two standard horticultural classics, and that is saying a good deal. It does not pretend to be a text book on the cultivation and management of hardy bulbs, though such matters are briefly dealt with under each plant, but rather a comprehensive, descriptive survey and enumeration of the various species comprising the families of bulbous plants. There are several books which deal exhaustively with the leading genera of bulbs, such as tulips, lilies, gladioli, crocuses and daffodils, but none in which detailed descriptions of all hardy bulbous and tuberous-rooted plants are given, and this is the laborious task which Colonel Grey has tried to accomplish in his three-volume work. It is too early to say how successful he has been, but if this first volume

unfortunately, the author has found the use of technical language unavoidable. The amateur should, however, have little difficulty in following the descriptions, for a glossary of terms is provided. Much of the information is based on practical experience and observation, and for the rest, the author has relied on the findings of acknowledged authorities and on patient research through a mass of material. It is an authoritative survey, serious, workmanlike and impressive, and should be of considerable value to all gardeners interested in bulbous plants who desire to have an up-to-date and convenient work of reference on the subject. The volume is illustrated by several drawings including about fifteen in colour, but these, in the opinion of the writer, are not of the high standard or quality demanded in a comprehensive work of this kind, and the value of the book would have been greatly enhanced by the generous use of half-tone illustrations. G. C. T.

Flower Portraits, by Blanche Henrey, with descriptive notes by G. C. Taylor and a foreword by E. A. Bowles. (Country Life, 7s. 6d.) FOR a variety of reasons, much photography of flowers is disappointing; sometimes there is too great idealisation of the subject; sometimes

patterns, for the sake of making them, strain a cluster of blossoms and foliage into unnatural shapes; sometimes an ill-chosen background absorbs the subject altogether. None of these defects is apparent in any of the examples in this book. They are called portraits, and portraits they are, frank, natural and arresting, the outcome of careful selection, intelligent grouping and objective treatment. Miss Henrey, moreover, by giving full scope to the play of light on leaf and petal, and by suitably varying the depth of her backgrounds, presents the full richness and variety of form of her subjects. This is most noticeable in the photographs of particularly delicate or slender blossoms, such as those of *Enkianthus campanulatus*, say, and *Syringa vulgaris*; not only, in such cases, is the full beauty of the tiny massed flowers enchantingly caught, but each individual blossom is acutely defined, the shape of the unopened buds is not blurred over, and the observer feels that he is looking at flowers as they grow and not at flowers tortured into a device for the purposes of making a pretty but artificial pattern.

Mr. Taylor's notes, crisp and informative, supply the adequate complement to the illustrations; while Mr. Bowles, in his Foreword, wisely insists on the inspiration to the designer that springs fresh and vital from between the covers of this enchanting volume.

R. C.

The Naming of Plants, by Vera Higgins, M.A. (Edward Arnold, 3s. 6d.)

IN this interesting and instructive little book, Miss Higgins has endeavoured most successfully, as it seems to the writer, to shed a great deal of light on the vexed problem of plant nomenclature. There is no serious gardener who has not at some time or other been puzzled as to the way plants come by their names, and has sought to acquaint himself with the reasons underlying their labels; and in this volume he will find everything he wants to know. The rules and recommendations of the International Botanical Congress are clearly explained, and the naming of garden varieties as distinct from species, is also adequately dealt with. The reasons for the many recent changes in the naming of certain plants which the present generation of gardeners is apt to deplore, are discussed, and everyone will echo the hope expressed by the author that the tangle of nomenclature will soon be straightened out, that order will be restored out of the present chaos, and that a list of standard names will be produced that will remain for all time. Finality in nomenclature is, of course, hardly possible in our present imperfect state of knowledge. Future investigation and discovery are bound to necessitate change, but much can be done to build a sound basis

for future work, and, if serious gardeners understand the principles underlying the process of naming, they can undoubtedly help to bring about standardisation. To those who have little or no previous knowledge of nomenclature, it is an extremely clear and reliable guide, and it is to be hoped that it will be read as widely by taxonomic botanists and by nurserymen engaged in the production of new plants, as by all serious gardeners. T.

Gardeners' Choice, by Evelyn Dunbar and Cyril Mahoney. (Routledge, 15s. 6d.)

IT was the late Miss Jekyll who first taught gardeners to appreciate the picturesque qualities of certain plants, and to recognise the significance of their form and texture, proportion and balance in any scheme of planting. Since then several writers have dealt with the same theme, but few so successfully as the authors of this book, which is in the best Jekyllian tradition though more limited in scope. They have selected some forty plants which, in their view, looked at from the standpoint of both the practical gardener and the artist, are worthy of a place in those gardens where plants are grown as much for their individual merits as for their beauty in the mass. No one will quarrel with their choice, which includes such handsome subjects as *Bocconia cordata* and *Senecio clivorum*, as well as such dainty treasures like *Cyclamen neapolitanum* and *Oxalis adenophylla*. Each is described with sympathy and understanding, and the crisp and informative descriptions are supplemented by admirable drawings which faithfully portray the grace of line and beauty of form of flower and leaf. None of the plant personalities which the authors have held up to their mirror are commonplace, though many are familiar, and the select band form an enchanting volume that both instructs and entertains and will be enjoyed by the beginner and expert alike. T.



THE CALIFORNIAN BUSH POPPY, ROMNEYA COULTERI
(Reduced illustration from "Flower Portraits")

on the Iridaceæ can be accepted as a guide, it is evident he has succeeded in a very large degree, and produced an authoritative reference book that will be of inestimable service to all who take an interest in bulbs. Recent discovery has added considerably to the ranks of bulbous plants. Older text books on the Iridaceæ and Amaryllidaceæ, valuable as they are, are now out of date, and the need for a book which would bring our knowledge up to date and include a description of all the more recently introduced species has been apparent for some time.

This first volume covers the whole family of the Iridaceæ, which includes, besides the iris itself, such well known genera as the crocuses, gladioli, freesias, watsonias, tritoniæ, and ixias, as well as many others less well known but quite easily grown and well worthy of more widespread cultivation. In a brief introduction, the author discusses cultivation and propagation, and describes the various bulbs suitable for different situations in the garden—the woodland and streamside, the rock garden and border, and the alpine house. There is a short note on the Terrestrial orchids and desert bulbs, and an allusion to those kinds suitable for West Country gardens. To the keen plantsman there is a wide field for experiment among bulbous plants, and this present volume should do much to encourage the venturesome gardener to try his hand with some of the lovely and fascinating plants which are described. Many of the species which find a place in the volume cannot be termed reliably hardy outside except in the most favoured districts in the south and west; but there are others which, though formerly believed to be on the tender side, experience has shown to be perfectly trustworthy; and there is something to be said for the author's statement that if certain plants originally imported from warm climates, are grown under conditions at home approximating to those in their natural habitat, and can be induced to set seed, there is a strong likelihood that a reasonably hardy race might be established in cultivation. The specific descriptions are simple and straightforward, but,

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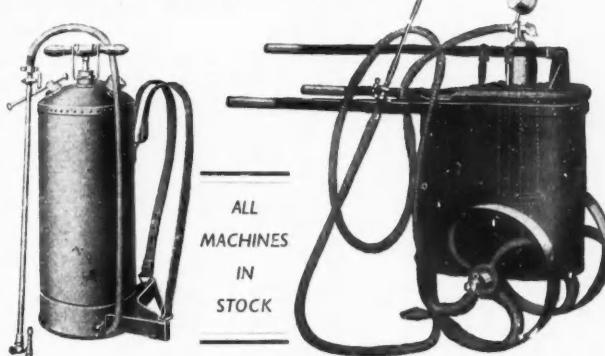
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Philip Harben

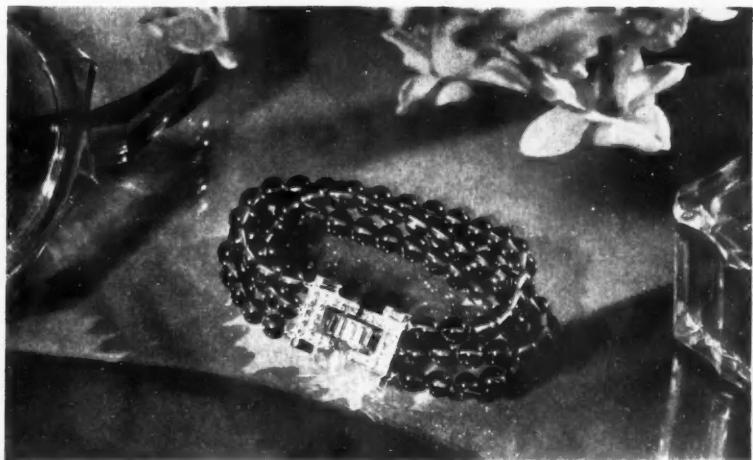
IT used to be said that one could only get evening gowns in Paris ; then women realised that London was rivalling Paris ; and now those who live in the north need not even come to London for their clothes, when they can get such attractive frocks as the black dinner dress shown above, in Glasgow. It comes from Daly and Sons, Limited, Sauchiehall Street, and is in black romaine with a shirred bodice and gold ornaments.

EVENING ELEGANCE

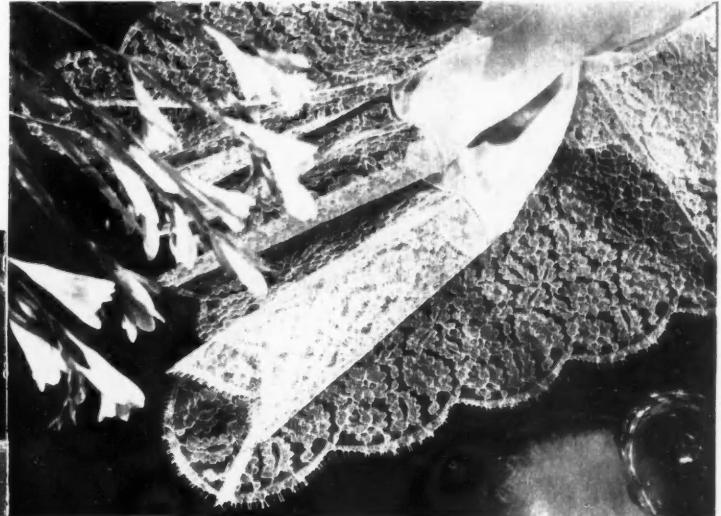
EVENING accessories are often the making of a dress ; and if you choose them well they may be the making of several. The ones on this page, which all come from Fortnum and Mason, are planned on a colour scheme of red, gold and white, and so would go with a dress in any one of these colours or in black.



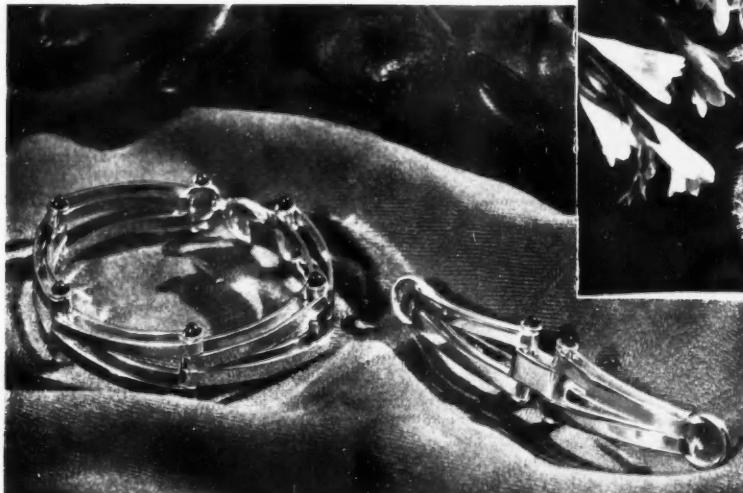
This handsome evening bag in gold brocade has a *motif* of red stones in each corner. It is elegantly flat, but will hold all the vital powder and cigarette cases.



To carry on the red *motif*, a three-string bracelet in little round red beads with a handsome architectural-looking paste clasp.



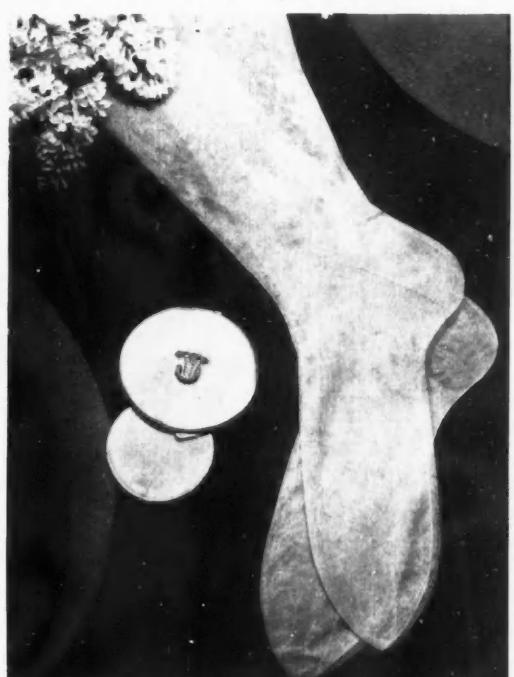
A truly elegant evening handkerchief, white chiffon with an immensely deep lace border.



Gilt jewellery is plum in fashion now, both for day and evening wear, and the more massive it looks the better ; here is a set of bracelet and brooch in gilt with tiny red stones at the joints.



Red evening sandals, half in sequins and half in satin, and piped with gold. Fortnum's also have them in blue, black and green, and in white for dyeing.



To wear with your toeless evening sandals, very fine gauge seamless stockings. You can have them plain or with gold letters sprinkled round the ankles. A flat gilt powder compact is with them.

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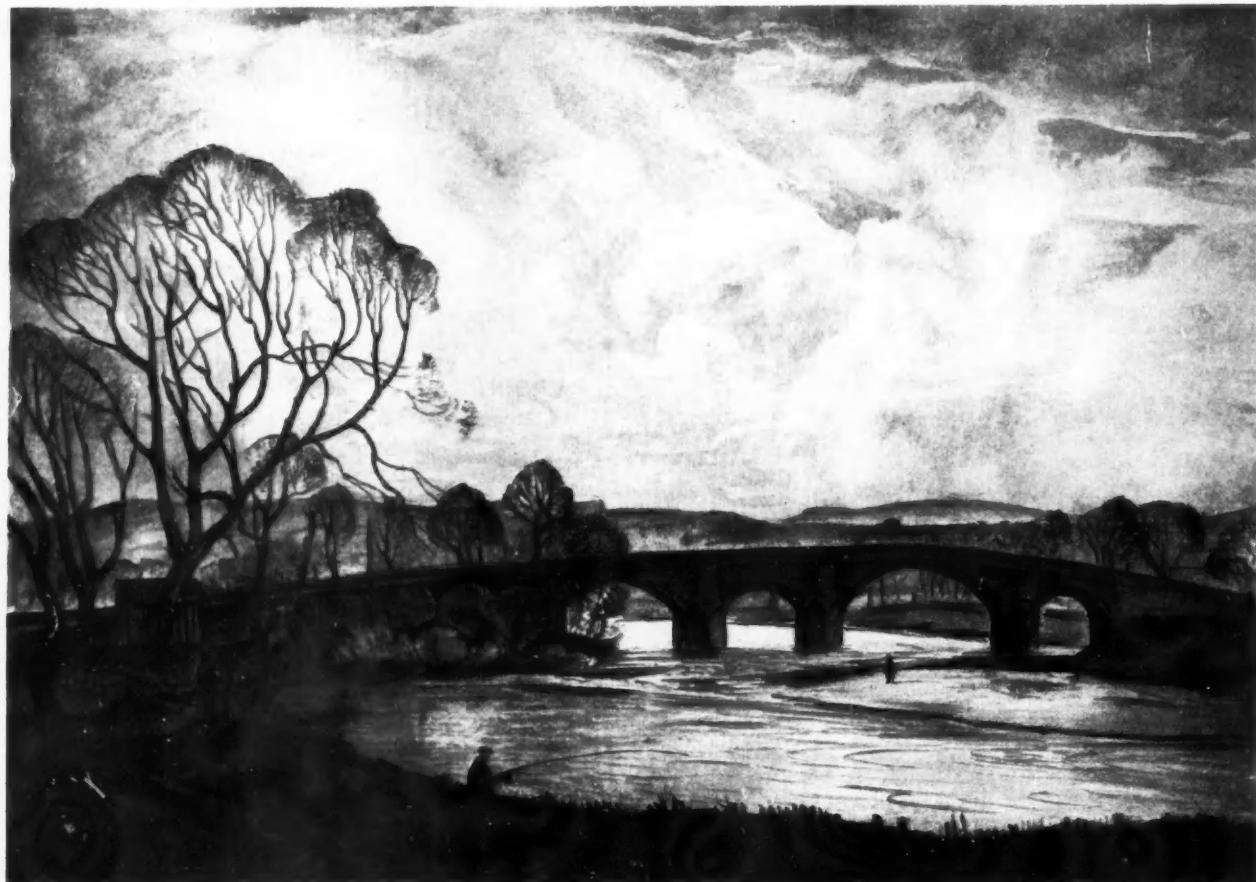
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